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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20TH 2016

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Family's tribute

A PEDESTRIAN who died following a collision with a car on the road to Porthcawl, has been named as **Deividas Andrijauskas**.

Nineteen-year-old Deividas, from Wildmill in Bridgend, sustained serious injuries in the incident, which occurred as he walked along the A4106 Bridgend Road, Tythegston, at around 4pm on Friday, October 7.

He died in hospital on Wednesday morning and his family have released the following tribute to him.

"Deividas was born in Lithuania, but has lived in Wales since the age of 12, and as far as he was concerned, this was his home. He never forgot where he was from, but his life was here now."

"He was a young man just starting out in the world, and he was so caring, loving and full of life and energy. He was a

hard worker and so well liked by everyone who knew him.

"He always had a smile on his face and was such a happy boy. He was always listening to music and his ambition was to become a DJ one day. He loved playing and watching basketball, because that is Lithuania's national game."

"He went out that day to visit friends and we had no idea that he would never come home. We never had the chance to say goodbye to him."

"His loss has left a massive hole in our family, and he will never be forgotten by everyone who knew him."

South Wales Police are continuing to appeal for witnesses to the collision. Anyone with information is asked to contact the police on 101, or Crimestoppers, free and anonymously, on 0800 555111.

ABERFAN DISASTER REMEMBERED



LEFT:
Cefn Cribwr's footballers travelled to play league leaders Aberfan over the weekend and both teams paid tribute to all those who lost their lives in the Aberfan disaster 50 years ago.

For more details on remembrance of that tragic day half a century ago, see page 14.

(Match report on the back page).

Porthcawl man (24) jailed after high-speed drive around town

IT WAS ONLY LUCK THAT nobody was injured when a self-employed carpenter drove his van at high speed in built-up areas in Porthcawl, said a judge at Cardiff Crown Court.

Daniel Braham (24), fled from the vehicle and later told the police that it was because the following day he was going on holiday to Bulgaria.

Braham, of Summerfield Drive, Porthcawl, was jailed by Judge David Wyn Morgan for a total of 44 weeks and disqualified from driving for three and a half years.

He had admitted charges of dangerous driving, driving while disqualified without insurance, and possessing cannabis.

Prosecutor John Warren said that earlier this year, Braham had been disqualified from driving for three years.

by AJ SICLUNA

On July 20, police spotted him driving at speeds of over 60 mph in residential areas of Porthcawl and gave chase.

Braham eventually stopped and ran off from the vehicle.

Mr Warren said he was eventually arrested on September 27, following a domestic incident.

At the time, he was found to be in possession of a small amount of cannabis.

"When interviewed, he admitted driving while disqualified and without insurance, and accepted his driving had been dangerous," said Mr Warren.

He told the officers he ran off because he was due to go on holiday the following day.

The court heard he had convictions for burglary, causing damage and failing to provide a breath specimen.

His solicitor, Rhodri Chudleigh said: "He realises

the aggravating features of the offences. To say the least, he is a hard worker, very industrious, and has his own company."

"He was driving at the time because he could not resist the temptation."

Said the judge: "This was a prolonged incident and you drove dangerously in built-up areas. It was only luck that no one was injured."

He was ordered to take the extended driving test.

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Saturday 22 October 2016
11am - 3pm

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Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

Some people have asked if I can add my address. Well, my thought on this is that if you are already part of the same? I did not receive a reply from Cardiff because I know they do not accept anonymous mail.

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

'Young people lack enthusiasm for Welsh traditions'

I WAS sad to my soul last Saturday to see the poor turnout of good, young Welsh people at the Proclamation for the Urdd, and the procession through the town.

All I can think is that this fine nation's young people have been so cowed by years of domination from over the border that their enthusiasm has diminished. It was not so in my day.

Perhaps our fine comprehensive schools in Bridgend, part of the Welsh education system admired the world over, are equally cowed by the

Winter grants to combat loneliness

AGE CYMRU is Wales' leading charity for older people, whose mission is to create an age-friendly Wales, where older people are able to live happy and fulfilling lives.

Unfortunately, our research shows that 41,000 over-65s in Wales say they are often or always lonely.

That is why we are delighted to be able to offer a limited number of grants to older people's groups across Wales to organise a get-together for potentially vulnerable older people during the winter months.

St Mary Church Macmillan event

MANY thanks to the villagers, Ageing Well group in Llantwit Major, the bridge clubs of Llantwit Major, Old Hall Cowbridge and Mid Glamorgan for their support in purchasing raffle tickets, and attending the coffee morning; plus a silent auction, which in total raised over £850 (including Gift Aid) effect.

Cathy Mangles, Llantwit Major.

'PM's claim does not ring true'

Mrs Theresa May is a chameleon politician – as a member of a Conservative Government whose policy for the last eight years has been economic austerity, where the nation's economics were aimed to favour only the richest 1 per cent of the population, at the expense of the working population.

The undeniable proof of that is that the privileged 1 per cent are now twice as rich

as in 2008.

That is what thoughtful citizens would expect from Conservative MPs, but what is preposterous is for Mrs May, who sat in the cabinet, now to declare that she is personally offended by this inequality – as if the Tory Government had not deliberately created this divided and unjust society.

N Westerman, Brynna.

Lost and found...

WE'RE you recently driving a white van in Barry? If so, were you turning right from Ffordd Cwm Cidi into Pontypridd Road in Barry on Tuesday, September 27 at about 12.30pm?

If so, did your rear doors fly open and something drop out?

You may have later noticed the loss of a piece of valuable kit essential in your job.

If this relates to you, please ring 01446 734970 for more information.

A Barry resident.

The curse of yet more junk mail

IT would appear that those of us who do not wish to be subjected to a variety of direct marketing activities and inundated by a flood of advertising flyers, hot sales leads, and heartrending letters from any number of charities, are obliged to opt out of the Open Register.

Having already indicated that we wish to opt out of the register via a household enquiry form, we were again faced with completing another form to that effect.

Surely a more considerate (and

certainly ethical) approach would have been that we would only need to be troubled with this inconvenience (slight that it may be) by filling in a form if we wished to opt in?

Or possibly the term 'consideration' does not factor into the equation when trying to make a profit.

I would hazard a guess that our local council, having insight into the vagaries of human nature, know that the majority of people won't be bothered to opt out; and thus the lists they sell to businesses and charities will remain essentially unchanged.

Michael A Crabtree, Llantwit Major.

Bridgend AM pays a visit to local Remploy



Pictured with Carwyn Jones (third from left) are Remploy's Jill Evans, Sam Harvey and Helen Northmore. Also in the photo are three people who are receiving support from Remploy.

BRIDGEND AM and First Minister, Carwyn Jones, recently paid a visit to the Remploy Bridgend Office at Brackla House in the town.

Remploy Cymru is Wales' largest disability employment organisation supporting disabled and disadvantaged people into secure, sustainable jobs.

During his visit, Mr Jones met Helen Northmore, business development director at Remploy Cymru, Sam Harvey, business manager and Jill Evans, employment adviser.

He also had an opportunity to talk to some of the candidates who are

receiving support. The candidates were taking part in a 'job action group'.

Mr Jones was told that since 2010, Remploy Cymru has supported a total of over 17,000 people into work.

Mr Jones said: "Remploy does a great job and I would like to thank Helen, Sam and Jill for talking to me about Remploy's work in the area. It was great to observe a job action group and to meet some of the candidates who are receiving support.

"It was interesting to hear their stories and about how the support they have received has made such a difference to their lives."

Have your say on Welsh language education in the county borough

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) has launched a public consultation to gather views on the local demand for Welsh medium education.

The online survey, which can be completed at www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation, will help the council to understand whether residents are satisfied with the current provision and assess if more needs to be done so that parents can choose a Welsh language education for future generations, if they wish.

There is one secondary school, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd, which opened in September 2008. The online survey can be completed at www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation and runs until Monday, December 9, 2016.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL OCTOBER 27)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
20 Thur	09.59	10.2	22.27	9.9
21 Fri	10.47	9.6	23.15	9.2
22 Sat	11.44	9.0		
23 Sun	00.15	8.5	12.46	8.4
24 Mon	01.27	8.0	14.07	7.9
25 Tues	02.52	7.8	15.29	8.1
26 Wed	04.09	8.2	16.34	8.6
27 Thur	05.07	8.8	17.26	9.1

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Guide Dogs celebrates 85th anniversary

ON October 6, The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association (Guide Dogs) celebrated 85 years since the UK's first guide dog partnership was formed on October 6, 1931 in Wallasey on the Wirral, Cheshire.

In 1931, two forward-thinking Britons, Muriel Crooke and Rosamund Bond, sent for a dog trainer from the Swiss-American organisation The Seeing Eye and in October of that year, the first four British guide dogs completed their training at a lock-up garage in Wallasey.

The first guide dogs were German Shepherds, Flash, Meta, Judy and Folly.

Guide Dogs relies on well over 11,000 volunteers throughout the UK taking on differing roles – from brood bitch holders, puppy walkers and boarders – to sighted guides, fundraisers and many more.

For over eight decades, the Guide Dog service has survived with no government funding, even though there is an ever-growing demand for guide dogs.

Bridgend county borough has a local fundraising group of volunteers who help to raise funds.

We are holding a table top sale at the Laleston Gardening Club (next to the church in Laleston) on Saturday, October 29 from 10am till noon. Entry is free; refreshments will be on offer.

NC

C



TAILS were wagging last Sunday as dogs from Dogs Trust Bridgend rehoming centre went for walkies at the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales' Parc Slip nature reserve, when 97 dogs and their families turned up and a brilliant £376 was raised!

Both charities receive funding, thanks to players of People's Postcode Lottery, for projects across Great Britain.

People's Postcode Lottery is a charity lottery which has awarded an £142 million to good causes since its launch in 2008.

Support from players makes a huge difference to hundreds of communities with funding awarded to grass root groups and local projects as well as national and international charities.

In 2016, Wildlife Trusts in Wales received over £200,000 from the lottery which enabled them to continue their conservation work.

The trusts have used the funding for educational opportunities and events for local communities and schools, as well as maintaining nature reserves.

The support is also invaluable to Dogs Trust, who will also receive £200,000 from the players of the lottery this year.

The team were not alone on Sunday in trying out the route at Parc Slip, as they brought a number of residents from the nearby Bridgend-based rehoming centre.

Dusting off his waterproofs for this year's walk was Rio, a six year-old terrier cross who is loved by everyone and often goes for sleepovers with his canine carers and is now looking for a permanent forever home.

Dogs of all shapes and sizes from the rehoming centre popped down and are hoping that sometime soon their new families will take them on lovely walks just like today. Joining Rio were 11 year-old Joe, a Border Collie looking for a comfy bed and loving new owner, and seven-year old Jack Russell Fred who can be a bit worried, but will make a great companion.

This event with Dogs Trust was a fantastic opportunity to promote responsible dog ownership on the nature reserve as well as Dogs Trust's 'Big Scoop' campaign. Dogs Trust were thrilled to see

so many responsible dog owners and their four-legged friends on Sunday, and would like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who attended and helped raise vital funds for both charities. A big 'thank you' also goes out to People's Postcode Lottery for their continued support.

Angela Wetherall, Dogs Trust Bridgend Rehoming Centre manager, said: "We're so grateful to the players of People's Postcode Lottery as they have made such a difference to thousands of dogs' lives."

"2016 is a big milestone for Dogs Trust as we're celebrating our 125th anniversary and we wouldn't be able to continue our work without the help of our supporters and players of that lottery."

"Today has been lovely to come back to Parc Slip, following last year's first successful walk. The dogs loved meeting new people and taking in the sights and sounds of a whole new area!"

To find out more about visiting Parc Slip nature reserve or giving a Dogs Trust's dog a forever home visit the following websites:

www.welshwildlife.org and www.dogstrust.org.uk.

BECCA VINCENT

Butterflies
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OPENING EVENT
SUNDAY
23rd OCTOBER
10.30 am - 2.30 pm

Santa will be at Butterflies to open the door to the magical Christmas Shop, launching lots of new stock, special offers, Goody Bag with a spend over £30 & special key to the first 3 customers

Look forward to seeing you all at our magical event ...
8 High Street Barry CF62 7DZ
Gift Shop Downstairs & Christmas Shop Upstairs
1 goody bag per customer, first come first served

Man(19) dies after collision

POLICE have reported that a 19-year-old man who was involved in a collision in Bridgend on Friday, October 7, has died from his injuries in hospital.

The teenager suffered serious injuries after he was in collision with a blue Dacia Sandero vehicle while walking along the A4106 Bridgend Road, Tythegston, near the A48 roundabout in Bridgend.

Another, 17-year-old, male pedestrian was also involved in the collision, but sustained less serious injuries.

A 49-year-old man from North Cornelly was arrested on suspicion of causing serious injury by careless driving, and has been bailed pending further inquiries, a police spokesperson reported.

"We are continuing to appeal for witnesses to the collision to get in touch."

"Anyone with information should contact the South Wales

Police serious collision investigation unit on 101 or Crimestoppers (free and anonymously) on 0800 555 111; quoting reference 1600387042."

For an update on this tragic incident, see page 1.

Ogmore AM meets farmers

OGMORE farmers met with Huw Irranca-Davies AM and representatives from the Farmers' Union for Wales (FUW) at the Blackmill sheep sales to discuss the implications of the UK's withdrawal from the EU.

Mr Irranca-Davies, along with Glyn Roberts (president) and Alan Davies (chief executive) of FUW, chatted about the future of agriculture and rural development in Wales.



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Brynteg school gives concert a taste of things to come at Urdd

AN outstanding evening of entertainment was on offer on October 12 at Brynteg Comprehensive School, with six schools and a soloist from the county borough of Bridgend highlighting the forthcoming Urdd National Eisteddfod at Pencoed in May/June 2017.

The headteacher, Mr Jenkins, welcomed everybody to the school and said that he was looking forward to seeing and hearing the talent from the local schools.

The evening started with Brynteg School performing items from *Annie* – ‘Easy Street’ performed by Georgia Coombs as Miss Hannigan, Kate James as Lily St Regis and Evan Laidler as Rooster; and ‘Maybe’ sung by Sadie Hennessy, who plays Annie.

The show director is Paula Beesley, musical director Zoo Fender and the choreographer (a past pupil) Emily March. It is being performed at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl by Brynteg pupils on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday this week (October 19–21).

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd, with their music teacher Nia Edwards, had five individual items: Megan Taylor – saxophone solo; Joey Cornish – piano solo; Elinor Williams – solo; Elain Davies – harp solo; Joey and Elinor – duet.

Oldcastle Primary School with their choir conductors Charlotte Boughton and Rosalind Harris sang three songs: ‘Together’, ‘Happy’ and ‘Naughty’ – the last from *Matilda*.

Helen Turberville, the Archcellists’ tutor at Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School had the Archcellists perform three items: ‘Hungarian Stomp’, ‘Bass Blues’ and ‘Divertimenti’, and the

jazz group under the leadership of Glyn Price with music teacher Charlotte Lecke performed three items: ‘Worksong’, ‘Suburbia’ and ‘Alright, OK, You Win’.

Also performing as a soloist singing ‘Now That I’ve Seen You’ from *Miss Saigon* was Charlotte Lenehen.

Llangewydd Junior School with their music teacher Bethan Hatch-Walker performed four items: ‘Hall of Fame’, ‘Happy’, ‘The Climb’, and ‘Titanic’ and then Ysgol y Ferch o’r Sgêr followed with ‘Y Darlun’ and ‘Cân yr Urdd 2017’, conducted by Mrs Curl and accompanied by Rhiannon Dixon.

To close the evening, Anwen Angharad sang ‘Cilfan y Coed’. The evening was hosted by the former headteacher of Llangewydd Junior School, Mrs Susan Davies, who was very pleased to be of assistance.

The Mayor of the County Borough of Bridgend, Councillor Reg Jenkins, thanked everyone and explained that the money raised from the event will be used towards sponsorship for the Urdd National Eisteddfod from the Bridgend County Civic Charity and the participating schools.

The next event for the Bridgend Civic Charity Appeal is on Friday, October 21 at the Great House Hotel and Restaurant, Laleston with special guests Assistant Chief Constable Alun Thomas, MPA, Special Operations British Transport Police, London and compere Jeremy Evans.

All are welcome to attend; to reserve tickets and menu choice contact Mari Major, MBE on 01656 651 491. Tickets are £25 for a three-course meal and entertainment (12.30pm for 1pm). MM

Farmers' market gets set to be on the move

THE monthly Porthcawl Farmers Market makes its first appearance this Saturday (October 22) at the Awel-y-Mor Community Hall (9.30am–12.30pm) before it moves to a new home in the town.

Market spokesman Mike Pett said: “Awel y Mor has been the home of the market for the last 10 or more years.

“We will be moving to the Griffin Park Community Hall – only a short distance away.

“We believe this will give more opportunity for producers to provide a greater choice for customers. More details will be provided prior to the November market.”

Local police take part in Urdd Proclamation Day



LOCAL police officers got into the spirit of the occasion at the recent Proclamation Day in Bridgend on Saturday, October 8, for the Urdd National Eisteddfod, which is being held in Pencoed next spring.

A lively procession wended its way from Bridgend College to Newbridge Fields along the following route:

Cowbridge Road East, Nolton St, Caroline St, Wyndham St, Queen St, Water St Bridge, Angel St and Newbridge Fields.

Sgt James Munro of Bridged Neighbourhood Policing Team reported: “A good time was had by all.

“The event was a success with everyone enjoying a safe and crime-free procession. We are now looking forward to the Urdd coming to Pencoed next year.”

Bowie the guide dog wows the Sker WI branch!

VICE-president Eunice Howells welcomed 37 members and two visitors to the meeting of Sker WI on October 13.

A fashion show will held at St David’s Church Hall at 7pm on October 24. Tickets, £4 to include a glass of wine and nibbles. All proceeds will go to the Save Denman Appeal.

Members are looking forward to a trip to Cheltenham in November and the usual Christmas celebrations are being planned, including our Christmas fair at Trinity Church on November 25.

As part of our golden anniversary celebrations, it was also decided that Sker WI will be displaying a Christmas tree at this year’s Christmas Tree Festival at All Saint’s Church, Porthcawl, between November 28 and December 5.

The vice president later introduced the speaker, Mrs Norah Clark and her companion Bowie.

For those expecting a nod to the glory days of Glam Rock, Bowie entranced members even more than the late, great David. This Bowie was, in fact, a six-month old Golden Retriever and a Guide Dog in training.

Mrs Clarke has been a puppy walker for the Guide Dogs since 2007 and has recently sent her ninth puppy on to its next stage of training.

CHRISTINE BEYNON

Welsh foodies enjoy a real beach treat at Southerndown!



SOME of the best artisan food producers in Wales descended on Southerndown beach recently to show off their products.

Members of the public were able to sample foodie goodies, as well as attend talks and demonstrations at a Food Festival put on by the Vale Council and the Slow Food movement's south east Wales branch.

‘Slow Food’, the opposite of fast food, began in Italy in 1986 to preserve Europe’s culinary traditions and small-scale producers, in the face of the globalisation of American dining.

Vale MP Alun Cairns (*pictured above*) was one of the keen food lovers at the event, sampling Tomas a Lliford beer brewed in Llantwit Major and Melinfa ice cream from Penarth.

Mr Cairns said he was unable to sample as much food as he would have

liked due to his runner’s diet!

He continued: “I did knock back consecutive shots of olive oil at a demonstration of the difference that exists between different varieties.

“The Food Festival was a good job well done by organisers at the Vale Council and the Slow Food movement. Hundreds turned up and enjoyed the tastes and demonstrations on offer.

“I certainly learned much more about the different varieties of olive oil, which I hope will impress my wife after my next shopping trip!

“If you missed the event, I would recommend looking up and using local food and drink producers in the Vale.

“Food and drink with a local provenance tastes just that bit better knowing that you are supporting your neighbours and the local economy.”

COSY NEST FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

OVER 1,000 Bridgend county borough residents contacted the Welsh Government Warm Homes Nest scheme last year for help to heat their homes and reduce their energy bills.

Nest is open to all householders in Wales and provides advice on saving energy, money management, energy tariffs and benefit entitlement to help reduce the cost of energy bills.

In addition to advice, people who live in a home that is hard to heat and receive a means tested benefit may also be eligible for free home energy efficiency improvements funded by the Welsh Government.

Nest can be contacted on Freephone 0808 808 2244 or visit www.nestwales.org.uk.

Go to the Bridgend & Porthcawl GEM for the latest stories and breaking news

There's lots more online....



www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE COMMUNITY NEWS

Mayor of Maesteg charity fund
THE Mayor of Maesteg's charity fund was launched in 2013.

Over the last three years, the fund has raised over £14,000, with cash donated to a number of local causes. The current mayor, Councillor Jennifer Terry, has nominated Macmillan Cancer Support, Diabetes Wales, Caerau Community Growers and Noddfa Youth to benefit from the fund.

The Mayor's Macmillan coffee morning in the council offices on September 30 was well attended, with guests entertained by the marvellous Maesteg Gleeman Male Voice Choir.

They were also given a fascinating historical talk by Roy Meredith, a well-known local historian. A fabulous array of cakes were available donated by local businesses and members of the community.

A grand total of £600 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support.

There are two fundraising events next month. On Sunday, November 6, a day at the races with the Mayor at Ffos Las racecourse, Countryside Race Day (£25 per head).

Seven races with the first race at 12.45pm and the last race at 4.15pm.

On Saturday,

Young Musicians Porthcawl concert

A YOUNG musicians' concert on Sunday, October 30, at 3pm in All Saints' Church, Porthcawl, will offer "an alternative to the pumpkins and pallid faces of Hallowe'en."

Impresario Judith Shawe, will be showcasing the skills of young, musicians from Porthcawl and the Vale of Glamorgan (all under the age of 18) who were prize winners in the prestigious Music in the

November 26 a coach trip to Worcester's famous Christmas Market; tickets £17 (coach only).

For tickets for both events contact Mike Banks: 07584 177456; Margaret Buckley 01656 732631; Jen Terry: 07817 501999; or Lizzy's Candy (Talbot Street).

Blackmill bazaar

AT Blackmill Community Hall next Saturday, October 22 from 11am to 4pm there will be a bazaar with a large variety of stalls to raise funds for Latch, the Welsh children's cancer charity.

Sankey hymns

HOREB Baptist Chapel in Dinam Close, Nantymoel (CF32 7PU) is the last religious establishment at the top of the Ogmore Valley.

Next Thursday, October 27 at 6pm it is holding an evening of song and fellowship, with the opportunity of learning about some of the favourite songs in the popular Sankey Hymnal.

For further information telephone Pastor Chris Bluto on 01443 675424.

WI members "in awe of speaker"

LALESTON Women's Institute's October meeting was taken by president Dawn Storie, who welcomed

everyone and introduced new member June Matthews to those present.

Travel arrangements were given for the Glamorgan Federation dinner at The Hi-Tide, Porthcawl on November 10 and our Christmas lunch at The Atlantic Hotel, Porthcawl on December 6. There will be more information to come regarding the Glamorgan Federation Christmas Festival, at Neath College, on November 26.

Details of two bursaries, to be awarded for courses at Denman College, were announced. A ballot is to be held. A small group of ladies were looking forward to the Women's Institute's autumn walk. The quiz team of Jane Lewis, Diane Marshall, Ann Morgan and Dawn Storie were congratulated for their efforts.

Our speaker, Alan Badmington, was truly inspirational while being 'Lost for Words'. His talk was so captivating and all the members were in awe of him at the end of the evening. Jackie Harris gave the vote of thanks.

The raffle was won by Margaret Williams and the competition by Barbara Rees. The Luncheon Club will be on November 8 and the Book Club, at Bridgend library, will take place on November 15.

Our next meeting will be on November 3 at 7.15pm in Blandy Hall

(Laleston Gardening Club). The guest speaker, Nora Burns, will advise on 'What suits you best'. Our competition is 'A fashion accessory'.

New members are always welcome, why not come and join us? For further information call Diane on 01656 656600.

Christmas Child

TONDU Primary School is collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts for Operation Christmas Child, for children in other countries who do not receive gifts. Please send in the boxes by Wednesday, November 2 so that they will arrive at their destinations in time for Christmas.

Mrs Susan Pilcher the headteacher would like to advise parents and carers of young children under three years of age that the school will be holding a session on Wednesday mornings from 9.30am to 10.30am in the school's Heol Personlyn building in Aberkenfig.

The session is titled Tondu Toddlers and the child will be able to meet others in the same age group and learn how to socialise with its peers, while the parents can chat and make friends with others.

Communities First postcode areas

RESIDENTS from the above areas are cordially invited to a

free Halloween gruesome grub and craft at Wildmill Community Centre on Wednesday, October 26 from 1pm to 3pm.

Advance booking for this event is required by calling contact Jess on 01656 643634 or 07974 399194.

Maesteg Hospital League of Friends

WHEN the First World War was raging in 1914, it was decided that more medical facilities were required for the Lynfi Valley.

At that time there were many thousands of miners working in the valley, and they very generously decided to donate a few pennies per week out of their wages, and this enabled the hospital to be built.

It was founded in 1914 and completed in 1916, but the miners continued to contribute to the fund long after the war had ended.

The Maesteg Hospital League of Friends has commissioned a plaque to commemorate the miners' contribution to the building of the hospital, and this will be unveiled in Maesteg Market Square on Saturday, October 29 at 11am.

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of THE GEM.

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



They are hoping that as many ex-miners as possible will attend, and march into the square with the colliery banners. Miners will meet in the central church (opposite the bus station) at 10.15am.

There will be a programme of entertainment prior to the unveiling. Maesteg Children's Choir will be performing on the stage, together with Curtain-Up Youth Theatre.

Cor Meibion Maesteg a i Cyflym (Maesteg and District male choir) will

also be there to sing some rousing songs, and a poem has been specially written for the occasion.

If you or your family were involved in the mining industry, or you have some connection with the hospital, please come along and take part in the event.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

WI's trip to the Mint

MEMBERS of the Pen-Y-Fai Women's Institute recently took a trip to The Royal Mint in Llantrisant.

They were given an informative tour by a very enthusiastic guide. They were informed that not only do they make all of the UK coinage but a great deal of the coinage of many other countries around the world – coins and commemorative assessments.

The ladies could not persuade the guide to give out any samples, so they had to be content with buying souvenirs from the gift shop and having refreshments before leaving. The trip appeared to be enjoyed by all. Everyone loved the 'Penny Lane Mini' covered in pennies old and new.

Later that week there was a display of

members' art and craft work on show at Tondu Wesley Methodist chapel as part of their open door festival's activities. Pen-Y-Fai WI showed examples of knitting, quilting, embroidery, dressmaking, crochet, silver jewellery making and painting.

The Green Hut

CEFN Cribwr Community Centre's Green Hut is located on Cefn Road (CF32 0AW). On Friday, November 4 at 7.30pm there is a concert to raise funds for Y Bont, the disabled children's charity.

Featuring in the show will be the Pencoed Silver Band, Marcus Bridgeman and friends, Dennis Lang the Welsh comedian and the Garage Gospel Choir. Tickets £5; for information call J Goudge on 01656 740026.

Sunday Lunch autumn offer



at Copthorne Hotel Cardiff

We are re-launching our Sunday Lunch Menu and offering a generous **20% off the total bill** including food

& drink. Enjoy a delicious traditional Sunday roast, four star surroundings & service and stunning views over our private lake.

Due to demand we have extended our offer **until 30th October 2016**.

Whether you start with a drink by the fire in the Burges Lounge or head straight into the Raglan Restaurant, the Copthorne Hotel is the perfect place to relax with friends and family and soak up the Sunday atmosphere. Demand is expected to be high so please call 02920 599100 to book your table to avoid disappointment.



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www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

Two awards for councils' animal welfare services staff

S H A R E D complaints against them. In achieving a bronze award, SRS demonstrated that it has a clear policy on how premises should be licensed and how any complaints should be investigated.

In achieving the silver award in the Stray Dog Category, SRS demonstrated that its animal wardens have been provided with basic handling and behaviour training for the collection of stray animals.

Also that there is a clear procedure in place to treat injured and sick dogs and a staffed out-of-hours kennel service is provided.

SRS also demonstrated a clear rehoming policy to ensure potential new dog owners are properly vetted and that micro-chipping and other permanent methods of animal identification are promoted.

Coun Gwyn John, chair of the SRS joint committee, said: "We are delighted to be recognised with these two awards for our animal welfare provision. "The awards highlight the positive work being done by Shared Regulatory Services,

The Animal Establishment category aims to recognise the work local authorities do to promote animal welfare at premises including pet shops, horse riding centres and a n i m a l boarding/kennelling facilities.

The SRS Animal Health and Welfare team is responsible for issuing licences to such premises, inspecting and dealing with any authorities."

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A LOCAL company has decided to celebrate its 20th anniversary in business by planning a series of fundraisers to buy a defibrillator for Pencoed.

April Complete Care Solutions have spent most of those 20 years – 17 to be exact – in Pencoed, so staff there feel a real connection to the area.

Mathew Hughes of April Complete Care Solutions told The GEM: "Defibrillators can make a huge difference to someone's chances of surviving a heart attack.

"The sooner one can be brought to a casualty the better, so fundraising for one seemed an ideal way of marking our 20th anniversary."

Staff at the company have already been busy raising funds, but Mathew is keen to let people know about the biggest event – which takes place on Saturday, October 29, at Tondu Cricket Club.

He said: "It all starts at 7pm, and there will be a buffet, a guest speaker, a grand prize draw and a disco.

"Admission is by ticket only. They are free and can be obtained by telephone on 01656 863963."

The company recently opened its doors to host a Macmillan coffee morning, and one staff member, Rebecca Taylor, gave the company's defibrillator a real shot in the arm back in August when

Vale Parkinson's support group meets

THE Vale Parkinson's Support group held its monthly meeting on October 4 at the Pavlovas.

M u r c h f i e l d Last month, the group Community Centre, enjoyed tea and cakes at Dinas Powys.

An interesting presentation on the landlady Denise. It was given by Philip all, and also raised Walters who had spent much-needed funds for much of his working life

Parkinson's Support. For more information

This was followed by a celebration of 41 years of very happy marriage of two members of the Barry group.

Helen and David

2724.

Pencoed pupils get CPR training

AN NHS representative visited Pencoed Comprehensive School to promote CPR and resuscitation with year 8 to celebrate 'Restart the Heart day'.

The British Heart Foundation campaign is taking place across Wales and the UK and Pencoed Comprehensive were one of the schools which took part.

The outcome of the day is that pupils will have life-saving skills, so

they would be ready to help in an emergency.

A school spokeswoman said: "It has been a fantastic day and the school are thankful to the team for an evenful day, which raises the life-saving skills of young children."

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Would-be councillors on the inside track

MEMBERS of the public have been given an insight into the role of a county borough councillor as part of Local Democracy Week (October 10 – 16).

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) held two free 'Be a councillor' sessions for potential candidates ahead of next year's local government elections, offering residents the chance to learn how to stand and campaign as an independent or political councillor, as well as more information about how the council works.

Held in the council chamber at the Civic Offices, Bridgend, the events gave attendees the opportunity to hear borough councillors' experiences, including stories about their most unusual constituent requests!

The potential candidates also tested the electronic voting system used during full council as part of an interactive quiz designed to explain more about the roles of the council and its partners.

The events have previously proven to be a prosperous pathway into politics, with 10 attendees at similar sessions held during Local Democracy Week in 2011 going on to be elected as county borough councillors at the 2012 local elections.

The cabinet member for communities, Coun Ceri Reeves, who was among the attendees elected in 2012, shared her experiences at this year's event.

She said: "I found the training events extremely insightful in 2011 and they helped to fuel my desire to become a county borough councillor so that I could represent my local community.

"I will certainly be watching with interest to see how many of this year's attendees go on to run for election in 2017, and I wish them the best of luck."

If you were unable to attend the events but would like to find out more about how to stand for election, email memberscbc@bridgend.gov.uk or call 01656 643250 / 01656 643385.

COMMUNITY ORDER FOR MAESTEG MAN

by AJ SICLUNA

A 21-YEAR-OLD Maesteg man received a community order for one year at Cardiff Crown Court when he admitted charges of producing cannabis and possessing Valium.

Jamie Stokes of Alexandra Road was told by judge David Wyn Morgan: "You obviously have a number of difficulties."

He ordered him to take part in a rehabilitation programme.

Prosecutor John Warren said that when the police searched Stokes' home, they found two cannabis plants, as well as the equipment associated with cultivating the drug. They found small amounts of cannabis and Valium.

When arrested, he said: "I grow it to smoke. The Valium helps me sleep."

The judge said he did not wish Stokes's solicitor, Adam Sharp, to mitigate.

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Tom shares CPR skills at The Senedd

FOURTEEN-year old cadet Tom Wood, who recently received praise for his quick thinking and heroic actions when performing CPR while working in a barber shop, has visited the Senedd to share his skills with Assembly Members.

Welsh Conservative Leader and South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies was so impressed by Cowbridge Comprehensive pupil Tom, of Llantwit Major, that he invited him to the Assembly for a personal tour, and to attend a Welsh Hearts CPR training session that Mr Davies was sponsoring.

Along with mum Julie, dad Michael and brother Adam, Tom made the trip to Cardiff Bay on Monday, October 17, and told Mr Davies how he used the skills he learned at Cadets when Eric Reid suffered a heart attack after taking his seat in Galton's Barbers.

Mr Reid, sadly, passed away, but his family



Tom Wood demonstrates his CPR skills to Sharon Owen from Welsh Hearts, Andrew RT Davies AM, Lyn Ward, mum Julie, brother Adam, dad Michael and paramedic Jason Sadler.

praised Tom for his quick thinking.

Tom accompanied Mr Davies to the CPR training session and demonstrated on a mannequin how he acted. He then discussed the importance of defibrillators with Sharon Owen from Welsh Hearts and do.

paramedic Jason Sadler, "It was a pleasure to welcome him and his family to the Senedd, and

it was great they could attend the CPR training session. I certainly learned a lot from him, as indeed did all of those present.

"The incident shows how vital it is we have more defibrillators available and proper CPR training, and I would like to thank Welsh Hearts for coming to the Assembly and giving AMs the opportunity to learn."

'MAJOR EXIT ROUTES ARE TOTALLY LOG-JAMMED...'

Parts of the Vale could be facing gridlock – councillor warns

by GEM REPORTER

PARTS of the Vale and Cardiff could be heading for gridlock – that's the verdict of one councillor who says we've reached "saturation point".

With a number of housing developments either under way or under proposal in Dinas Powys, Cosmeston, Sully, Barry, Rhoose and St Athan, Coun Kevin Mahoney warned that the flow of traffic was slowing and access to the M4 becoming inhibited.

Coun Mahoney told The GEM: "All major road routes exiting the Vale towards Cardiff are now operating totally beyond any recognised form of design capacity with Culverhouse Cross, Dinas Powys, the Merrie Harrier and Cogan at times totally log jammed."

"The M4 regularly shows signs of failing to cope with current traffic flows. It is apparent that Cardiff and the eastern Vale has already reached saturation point in regards to housing, population, services and traffic levels.

"With 45,000 new houses planned by Cardiff Council and 10,500 by the Vale, only a fool could think that the local infrastructure can cope with these levels of new population growth crammed into such a compact area."

Coun Mahoney pointed out that people in the Vale sometimes faced delays getting onto the M4 for either business or family journeys.

He explained: "It should be clearly obvious to any road user that there is virtually no capacity for more traffic and yet with the new proposals for a

business park, park and ride and thousands of new houses (1,500) behind junction 33 a key route out of the Vale may grind to a halt.

Many council officers, county councillors and national politicians have been paid vast amounts of money over the years and have failed to ensure the total upgrade of infrastructure.

"This should have taken place over the last 25 years in order to cope with a fraction of the new residents and houses in the area."

Coun Mahoney said it may be too late to sort out impending gridlock.

"I would like to offer a suggested solution – but I'm afraid that I can't. I don't think that there is one, and feel sure that we will continue to observe many people at local and national level who feel that you can just build over every scrap of green land in south east Wales and everything will be hunky dory."

National politicians hope the South Wales Metro project, which seeks to integrate rail and bus services and encourage people not to use cars as much, will solve some of these issues. But some people are wedded to car use – and a train or bus service might not suit their routine or job requirements.

The GEM would like to hear your views on traffic flows in the Vale, Cardiff and onto main routes that lead to other areas of Wales. Do you think things work well? Or are you tired of delays? Please send them to: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk.

Spinning a yarn at Cowbridge library

THE Campaign for Wool held its seventh 'Wool Week' on October 10-16.

The campaign, with HRH The Prince of Wales as its patron, officially began in October 2010 with a launch event in London's historic tailoring street Savile Row.

In October 2012, the campaign launched 'Wool School', its first major educational initiative and last week it came to Cowbridge Library for the children from reception class, year 1 and year 2 from Y Bont Faen School.

Jane Bissett, who is a shepherd and spinner with Kennixton Sheep in Moulton, gave the children demonstrations of all things wool: yarn, knitting, spinning etc, and as indeed did all of those present.

The children learnt that

wool is a natural fibre from sheep and since the Stone Age, it has been known as one of the most effective forms of all-



ABOVE: Jane Bissett, Dora and Seren from Y Bont Faen and Julia Bazley, senior library assistant with Shetland rams, Duncan and Idris.

weather protection known to man, and science is yet to produce a fibre which matches its unique properties.

The children learnt that wool is collected and that every year sheep will produce a new fleece, making wool a renewable fibre source.

The children had plenty of questions for Jane. When asked who looked after the sheep, quite a few hands went up which bodes well for volunteer shepherds in

the very popular 'Walking Nativity' staged again this year by Churches Together in

Cowbridge and district in the Old Hall Gardens on December 9-10.

There was no doubt from the enthusiasm of the children in the library that they will one day help continue the support for the revival of the British wool industry

HARRY HAILES

Colwinston School is shortlisted for the Kellogg's breakfast prize

THE breakfast club at St David's Church in Wales Primary School in Colwinston has been shortlisted in the competition to win £2,000 and the Kellogg's prize for 'Best Breakfast Club'.

The club is regularly attended by 40 pupils from the village and the surrounding area. Teachers describe the 'wrap around care' as 'vital' in a fairly remote village where both parents of many children commute to Cardiff.

Colwinston's breakfast club was nominated for the award by Vale MP Alun Cairns who was impressed by the ethos and innovative practices created by the teachers running the club.

One of the most important aspects of the club is the 'buddy system', whereby older children are partnered with younger pupils to help them to fill their bowls and cut their food.

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "It was a joy to visit the breakfast club at St David's school in Colwinston. The teachers have done a fantastic job of creating a club with a hugely positive ethos, focused on healthy food as well as an opportunity for the oldest and youngest pupils to play together."



MP JOINS THE SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB.

YOUNG FARMERS KICKSTART THEIR COMPETITION YEAR

MAENDY YFC Members kick-started the year with entries in the Glamorgan County carcass Judging competition held recently at Wern Fabian Farm, Gower by kind permission of Mr Hugh Philips.

Competitors were required to judge four lamb or beef carcasses respectively, placing them from first to fourth based on conformation and fat cover in line with today's butchering trade.

Maendy members did very well with Lauren David being placed third in the under-16 lamb carcass section. Bethany Jarvis was placed first and Miss Heather Jarvis was placed second in the under-26 lamb carcass section.

In the beef carcass, Kate Thomas and Heather Jarvis were placed joint first; Bethany Jarvis was second and Jodie Williams third.

Soon after the carcass judging, attention turned to the Glamorgan Eisteddfod competition held in Neath Constitutional Club.

Members took part in a variety of stage and homework competitions. Maendy had a successful day with chairman Heather Jarvis achieving first place in the folk singing competition.

New member Cari Fflur Thomas was awarded first in the under-26 recitation section and the folk dancing team were awarded first place.

Attention now turns to the annual county stockjudging competition day which is taking place on Saturday, October 29.

Preparation and training is under way for this year's competition day which is being hosted by neighbouring young farmers club, Bridgend.

The aim is to judge the ring of animals placing them in first to fourth, based on their conformation and suitability for the

modern butchering trade. Competitors will then proceed to give their reasons in front of a judge within a two-minute time constraint.

Maendy had a tour of one our member's business, Fablas Ice Cream Ltd, owned by Lauren Evans. Lauren gave us a tour of where she makes her ice cream, telling us the process that she follows to make it. We all got to see her make fresh ice cream, and sample some of course!

As always, new members are welcome to come along and find out what Young Farmers Club is all about.

For further information please contact club chairman, Heather Jarvis, by e-mail maendy.yfc@gmail.com or telephone 07791 250916. You can also visit www.maendy-yfc.com and follow @MaendyYFC on twitter or like 'MaendyYFC' on Facebook for regular updates.

KATE THOMAS

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WARTIME COUPLE ARE CELEBRATING THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

EDWIN and Iona Davies, both Barry-born, celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on October 11.

Iona is currently resident in the Waverley Care home in Penarth, where she has been for some months.

They married when Edwin was 21, in the Corps of Royal Engineers and home for seven days' leave from the army. They married at St John's Methodist Church on Barry Island.

The wedding dresses were bought using any coupons that could be spared by all members of the family and friends.

Rationing meant that there was no sugar available due to the shortage of coupons again, so they managed to have a cake, but it was decorated with chocolate!

They then took the train to stay with Aunt Aggie in Alcester for their honeymoon weekend!

Edwin worked in a shoe shop when he left the army and spent his working days thereafter as a manager. Iona worked in Dan Evans' children's department for many years and they lived in several parts of southern England and Wales due to Edwin's job before moving back to Barry for the past 40 years.

They had three children. David, the eldest, died in 1977 in a RTA in Oman. His two sisters, Linda and Diane, live near Brecon with their husbands. There were six grandchildren, five girls and one boy and there are nine great grandchildren.

On their anniversary, a small celebration was held at the Waverley home in Penarth.

Family members and friends met to wish them well and congratulation cards and messages were received from all the family, including a special card from the Queen.

Messages were also received from the Alun Cairns MP and Jane Hutt AM, and the Barry Town Council Mayor, Coun Charlotte Williams, also came along to congratulate them.

HEULWEN COOPER



Edwin and Iona Davies on their wedding day.



Edwin and Iona Davies celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on October 11.

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'DEMOCRACY IN ACTION' IS THE THEME AT BARRY COMPREHENSIVE

STUDENTS at Barry Comprehensive School have been voting in the Vale Youth Mayor elections, while staff at the school voted for this year's head boy and head girl.

This year, three youth cabinet members are standing in the election for Vale Youth Mayor. Daley Chapman, Daniel Marshall and Rhys Powell. Daley and Rhys both attend Barry Comprehensive School, so students here are particularly interested in the result.

Staff votes saw Ben Rose and Lizzie Scott elected as head boy and head girl respectively.

Well done to all the candidates for putting themselves forward and trying to make a positive difference in their school and community. AC



Congratulations to Ben Rose and Lizzie Scott on becoming head boy and head girl respectively.



Daley Chapman and Rhys Powell, Barry Comprehensive School's candidates for Vale of Glamorgan's Youth Mayor elections.



LEFT:
Voting for the
Vale Youth
Mayor in the
school canteen.

LOCAL RESIDENTS URGED TO... 'WEAR IT PINK!'

LEADER of the Welsh Conservatives and South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies added his support for those affected by breast cancer by getting behind the 'Wear It Pink' campaign.

Wear It Pink Day, a Breast Cancer Now initiative, takes place on Friday, October 21, and Mr Davies has urged all Vale residents to join him in wearing pink to raise money for life-saving breast cancer research.

The campaign raises close to £2 million a year and anyone can take part. Breast cancer is the most common cancer in the UK and one in eight women will face it in their lifetime – Breast Cancer Now's aim is that by 2050, everyone diagnosed with the disease will live.

Mr Davies said: "Wear It Pink Day is a fantastic initiative and every year I secretly enjoy it since it gives me the excuse to add a touch of pink to my wardrobe! It may be a bit of fun but breast cancer is a serious condition that one in eight women in the UK will get at some point.

"Breast Cancer Now hopes that their research will mean by 2050, everyone diagnosed with the disease will survive, but to do that they need your support. Therefore, please join me on October 21 in wearing pink, donating what you can and standing up to this awful disease."



Andrew RT Davies AM helps to spread the charity's pink message.

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Fundraiser supports Vale for Africa



Coun Stuart Egan, Mayor Vale of Glamorgan; Former First Minister Rhodri Morgan; Jane Hutt AM, Leader of the House and Chief Whip; Lord Lieutenant, Mrs Morfudd Meredith; Dr Hasmukh Shah, fundraising member, Julie Morgan AM and Rev Aled Edwards.

THE Vale for Africa Charity works with TOCIDA in the Tororo district of Uganda Africa in order to improve healthcare and the education and library services through the fostering community.

It has numerous initiatives, which include an eye care project, the funding of three motorcycle ambulances, supports the community library and is working towards building new classrooms in the local school. The charity is also involved in student scholarship programmes.

Motorcycle ambulances are life saving, as they carry extremely ill people who goes a long way."

have to be able to get to hospital for medical treatment. They are also important for women in labour, who are experiencing difficulties which could threaten the life of both mother and baby.

A fundraising dinner where £710 was raised for the charity, was attended by approximately 60 guests and organised by Vale for Africa member Dr Hasmukh Shah.

The event was held at the Park Inn by Radisson Cardiff North Hotel on September 29. Among those in attendance were various specialists and general practitioners who work around south Wales.

When asked about the charity, Dr Shah replied: "We find a little help goes a long way."

Record start to the latest Oxfam vinyl record sale

THE third vinyl record promotion at the Penarth Oxfam shop had an amazing first three days, with sales reaching over £1,000.

Customers flooded in to the shop on the first few days buying singles and LPs from all genres and decades – from The Beatles to The Cure. The promotion will continue for at least two more weeks with stock being added as it is donated to the shop.

"We are absolutely delighted with the vinyl sales at the start of our promotion. We would like to thank all those customers who came along but our particular thanks goes to all those people who donated vinyl, as without

their contribution the promotion would not be a success.

"We always like to offer our regular customers the first chance to see and buy our collectable records and they give us positive feedback."

Vinyl – both LP's and singles – continues to grow in popularity throughout the UK and in Penarth Oxfam it is still not too late for people to donate records of any kind. They can drop their donations at the shop although larger collections can be picked up by arrangement.

For further information, call the shop on 02920 706358.

Nigel Billingham,
Oxfam Penarth shop
music volunteer

CAVC AND ACT ARE JOINING FORCES

CARDIFF and Vale College (CAVC) and ACT, the two largest providers of apprenticeships and skills training in the capital, have joined forces to drive forward support for young people, communities and businesses across the south east Wales city region.

The partnership makes the Cardiff and Vale College group the largest in Wales and in the top five colleges in the UK, with a £75m turnover and over 30,000 learner enrolments annually.

Together the two organisations also become the largest apprenticeship provider in Wales – providing high quality apprenticeships and training programmes across the region, Wales and beyond.

Mike James, chief executive of Cardiff and Vale College said: "Public funding across the board is continually reducing, and with Brexit and the potential apprenticeship levy comes further uncertainty.

"Yet it also provides significant opportunities for the future of apprenticeships, skills training and for both the CAVC and ACT brands.

"We need to ensure we are resilient and retain the capacity to continue to invest, develop provision, deliver more and increase opportunities to best support individuals, communities and employers across the region."

Andrew Cooksley, managing director of ACT said: "We have a long-standing working relationship

with Cardiff and Vale College that has seen us work collaboratively to develop and progress learners.

"Our provision is complementary and together we offer learning pathways across all Welsh Government sector skills areas from entry to higher level."

Trying to stop junk mail...

IT would appear that those of us who do not wish to be subjected to a variety of direct marketing activities as we are inundated by a flood of advertising flyers, hot sales leads, and heartrending letters from any number of charities, are obliged to opt out of the Open Register.

Having already indicated that we wish to opt out of the register via a household enquiry form, we were again faced with completing another form to that effect.

Surely a more considerate (and certainly ethical) approach would have been that we would only need to be troubled with this inconvenience (slight that it may be) by filling in a form if we wished to opt in?

Or possibly the term 'consideration' does not factor into the equation when trying to make a profit. I would hazard a guess that our local council, having insight into the vagaries of human nature, know that the majority of people won't be bothered to opt out and thus the lists they sell to businesses and charities will remain essentially unchanged.

Michael A Crabtree,
Llantwit Major.

FLU CAMPAIGN 2016

If you have a long term condition, are pregnant, a carer or 65 and over, your immune system might not be strong enough to fight the flu virus.

Unless of course you protect yourself.

Get a FREE jab from your GP to protect yourself and others

Again this year, an intranasal flu vaccine is available for children aged 2 & 3 years old on 31.8.16.

The intranasal vaccine will be available from late September.

Children in reception year and years 1, 2 and 3 will be offered the vaccine in school.

Contact your surgery today, to make a suitable appointment or

to find out about Special flu clinics e.g. Saturday morning flu clinics.

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HIGHLIGHT PARK MEDICAL PRACTICE. Tel 01446 720100

VALE FAMILY PRACTICE.

St Brides Tel 01446 744877

Park Crescent Tel 01446 735365

THE WATERFRONT MEDICAL CENTRE. Tel 01446 734131

WEST QUAY MEDICAL CENTRE. Tel: 01446 722792

COURT ROAD SURGERY. Tel 01446 733181

STATION ROAD SURGERY Penarth. Tel: No: 02920- 702301

STANWELL SURGERY. Tel 029 207 03039

DINAS POWIS MEDICAL CENTRE. Tel: 029 20512293

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St Athan - 01446 751010

Rhoose – 01446 712701

COWBRIDGE & VALE MEDICAL PRACTICE. Tel 01446 772237

WESTEN VALE FAMILY PRACTICE

Cowbridge – Tel 01446 722383

Llantwit Major – Tel 01446 794080

St Athan – Tel 01446 751751

Ysgol Iolo celebrate harvest festival with donation to the Vale Foodbank



Pupils with Mrs Ewa Thomas and the car full of food!



Ysgol Iolo pupils with Defrig Rees.

ON an autumnal October 7, the Parchedig Defrig Rees, from Capel Tabernacle Pen-y-bont/Bridgend, joined the children of Ysgol Iolo Morganwg to celebrate their annual Harvest Festival service.

All the produce donated by the children and families were given to Gareth and Ewa Thomas of the Vale Foodbank, Coastlands Family Church, Tennyson Road, Barry CF62 9TN.

ADVERTORIAL

Cloudy2Clear Announce Trusted Trader Partnership

Consumer champions Which? have now joined the thousands of customers who recognise that Cloudy2Clear Windows really are a business that you can TRUST. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has received the coveted 'Which Trusted Trader' status after going through a rigorous accreditation process entirely focussed on customer service.

Group Managing Director Marcus McGee believes that Which? have endorsed Cloudy2Clear's long standing company

policy of delivering the highest standards possible at all times. 'Our service is simple. If your double glazing has misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 25 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Whilst a number of tradespeople perhaps don't focus on customer care as much as they should do, we make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. Locally Cloudy2Clear service Cardiff & surrounding areas and

Welsh business owner Phil Powell agrees that this approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated as both my customers and, obviously a body as nationally important as Which? now recognise.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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AMBULANCE SERVICE PUTS HANNAH IN CHARGE OF PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE

THE Welsh Ambulance Service has appointed a new Director of Planning and Performance – Hannah Evans – who previously held the post on an interim basis, but now takes on the role permanently.

Based in the south east region headquarters at Vantage Point House in Cwmbran, she joined the Trust as head of strategic development in June 2015, before taking up the interim post.

Her previous experience includes roles as head of planning at the Welsh Government and assistant director of planning at Aneurin Bevan Health Board.

Hannah, who lives in Cardiff, said she was delighted to be able to

build on the work she has started since joining the service.

She said: "I'm now looking forward to carrying on the improvement journey that we have already set out on."

Chief Executive Tracy Myhill said:

"Having strong, collaborative, inclusive and courageous leadership is crucial to the organisation and Hannah's contribution to the executive team during her tenure as interim director has clearly demonstrated such qualities and approach."

"We would like to congratulate Hannah and wish her every success as she takes up the position on a substantive basis."



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ASSEMBLY NOTES


by Jane Hutt AM
(Leader of the House)

Celebrating the achievements of the charitable third sector

I HAD a number of opportunities last week to celebrate the achievements of the charitable 'third' sector serving our communities in the Vale of Glamorgan.

'Not for profit' organisations which work in the third sector are registered charities set up to achieve goals and objectives to improve the social, health and financial well-being of people and communities.

They also foster volunteering in every area of life including the environment, sport and culture.

On World Mental Health Day on Monday, October 10, a number of organisations came to the Senedd to raise awareness of mental health needs and the services they provide.

The Health Secretary, Vaughan Gething AM launched the Welsh Government plan 'Together for Mental Health' at the event, with a statement to the Assembly on Tuesday about the ways in which we are continuing to invest and modernise our mental health services.

Vaughan Gething was very clear about the role of the third sector in delivering 'Together for Mental Health.'

He said: "We have seen the third sector taking an even more active role in the way mental health services are shaped and delivered in recent years – and help to ensure the ethos of co-production in service planning and delivery."

He said the new plan would continue work to tackle stigma and discrimination, introducing a new 'well-being bond' in Wales and the piloting of a social prescription scheme to improve the availability of sources of support within the community.

The plan also includes investment in the provision of psychological therapies for adults and children and a focus on dementia risk reduction and improving diagnosis rates.

At the AGM of GVS (Glamorgan Voluntary Services) last week, I spoke about our commitment to the voluntary sector and its part in delivering the plan – including organisations like the charity MIND in The Vale, who have been taking part in the primary mental health support service pilot in GP surgeries – with positive results.

I congratulated GVS on an excellent year of work supporting volunteers in the community and developing projects such as 'Co-Creating Healthy Change' – working with another pioneering charity – Vale People First and Cardiff and Vale Action for Mental Health.

At the AGM we heard about a new grant scheme Supporting Older People in The Vale. We were urged to publicise this opportunity with funding from the Welsh Government allocated to the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board from the Intermediate Care Fund for new and innovative third sector community activities and services for older people in the Vale.

The closing date for applications is November 11 and more information can be obtained from Glamorgan Voluntary Service (GVS): 01446 741706 or email ceri@gvs.wales.

I was also fortunate to host an inspiring new initiative called the Responsible Finance Association in the Senedd last Wednesday. This involves four Welsh members: Moneyline, which offers ethical personal lending, contact: info@moneyleine-uk.com; Social Enterprise Wales, lending to social enterprises, contact: help@wcvva.org.uk; the Robert Owen Banking, which mainly covers green energy and home improvement loans, contact: www.rocbf.co.uk/; and Purple Shoots, which lends to individuals and businesses who cannot access funds or

loans from other sources. Contact: info@purpleshoots.org.

The motto of Purple Shoots is 'Little Loans to Grow Ideas' and it has had great success – particularly in the most disadvantaged communities in Wales. It is a registered charity led by Karen Davies from the Vale of Glamorgan.

We are fortunate and inspired by the charitable sector in the Vale and in Wales and so many people are involved and benefit from it in their everyday lives.



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ESTYN, September 2016

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FOR those who have tried letting go of a habit, particularly smoking, it can be a struggle using willpower alone.

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IT'S STOPTOBER! Make this one your last...

Local Hypnotherapist Sue Pitman HPD,DHP,MNCH(Reg) is offering £10 off a smoking cessation session booked during October including free back up CD. Visit www.cardiffhypnathersolutions.co.uk or call Sue Pitman on 02920 654893 or 07795 964066. Clinics at Llandow near Cowbridge, Barry & Cardiff

responsible for the habit. You make the decision to stop smoking and commit to that decision, it can be that simple.

Consider the benefits of stopping – the improved chances of a healthier future; improved appearance and more money better spent?

Contact Sue on 07795 964066; email: cardiffhypnathersolutions@gmail.com; www.cardiffhypnathersolutions.co.uk.

Clinics in Cowbridge, Cardiff and Barry.

Caring Welsh fundraisers raise £65,000 for charity

HUNDREDS of generous fundraisers across Wales have joined the fight against heart disease by raising an incredible £65,000 for British Heart Foundation Cymru's (BHF) life saving research through its 'Do Your Own Thing' campaign.

From fun runs and sponsored spin-a-thons, to charity quiz nights and bake sales – dedicated Welsh supporters have been

showing they're all heart by organising their own fundraising events for its Do Your Own Thing campaign to help support the charity.

Last year, a record-breaking £1.2million was raised for the BHF through community fundraising activities held across the UK.

They included: South and East Wales – over £25,000; North Wales – over £21,000; and Mid and West Wales – over £18,000.

For a free fundraising pack, visit www.bhf.org.uk/yourway



BEST FOOT FORWARD...

Volunteer appeal

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) will be hosting The BIG Volunteering Fayre on Wednesday, January 18 from 11am to 4pm at Barry Memorial Hall.

A spokesman said: "The BIG Volunteering Fayre is an ideal opportunity to showcase your charity and community group to promote your volunteering

opportunities.

"The BIG Volunteering Fayre is likely to have a wealth of prospective volunteers in attendance so with limited spaces book today!.."

Anyone representing an organisation and interested in attending the fayre should contact us 01446 741706, email: enquiries@gvs.wales; www.gvs.wales.

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'A TERRIFYING TALE OF BUNGLING INEPTITUDE'

50 years on - the Aberfan disaster is remembered...

BRIAN KEITCH TELLS HOW VALE OF GLAMORGAN RESPONDED TO THE HORRIFIC EVENT THAT STUNNED THE WORLD

In 1961, the local management of the National Coal Board decided to dump slag from the Merthyr Vale Colliery above the village of Aberfan – where the Number 7 Pantglas Tip began to pile up.

Perched on a steep slope, and located on top of a mountain stream, much concern was voiced by local residents about the safety of such a development. Protests were ignored and the tip gradually grew over the next few years, with the added danger of 'tailings' – fine particles of coal and ash which when wet, turned into slurry – deposited on it.

Like many disasters, there was a series of events which combined to result in the catastrophe. Heavy persistent rain in the weeks before, the students at Ysgol Pant Glas were due to start their half term holiday – with just a half day at school. Had the school day started 30 minutes later, many lives may have been spared.

The disaster – when Number 7, tip collapsed; raging down the mountainside and taking everything in its path – claimed the lives of 114 school children plus two more of not even school age; twenty eight adults of whom six were teachers. In total 144 lives were lost in a mining disaster – above ground – which was totally preventable.

One would have to go back to 1869, when John Nixon (famously known as one not to give a penny to charitable causes, despite his massive personal fortune that came out of the coal mining industry) opened the Merthyr Vale Colliery.

Typically, the coal owners had little regard to where 'slag' was tipped. Ironically, much of this slag was good small coal – but the money was in lump coal. For the colliers' point of view 'small coal' was worthless – in many cases not even paid for it.

The Universal Colliery in Senghenydd claimed the lives of over half a thousand miners in the disasters of 1901 and 1913 – plus many more in everyday accidents. The price of coal is hard to

describe, even today.

The Aberfan disaster was – as always in south Wales – treated on a personal scale. Within a matter of days, appeals for money to help the stricken village came from throughout the world. The police, Red Cross, the Fire Brigade, miners from the colliery and anyone and anybody, rushed to the scene of a disaster unheard of even in the grim history of mining.

In the Vale of Glamorgan, the chairman of Penarth Urban District Council, Mr T Glynn Salmon, announced: "I have been asked to launch a local appeal for funds in connection with the Aberfan disaster fund. Whilst I am sure that no amount of money can compensate for the terrible tragedy which has befallen the people of Aberfan, I feel that the people of Penarth would welcome the opportunity of contributing towards the appeal and thus help in some practical way to alleviate the effects of this disaster".

Another Penarth councillor, Mr Harold Green, suggested that the slag should be dumped into the disused Penarth Dock – thus solving two problems in one!

Within a week, the Penarth Council's appeal had reached over £1,000 – a lot of money 50 years ago. But a letter to the Chairman of Penarth Urban District Council is worth a mention: "Dear Sir, Please find enclosed a postal order value 20 shillings (one pound), my friends and I collected from the sale of used books and toys. Would you please put it towards the Aberfan Disaster Fund. My friends are Vicky Harvey, Paul Harper and Michael Crates. Graham Allen (aged 9)".

Barry Island collected £100 in a door to door collection and a charity ball raised £1,200 – the local Girl Guides did a charity walk from Cardiff to Portcawl and raised a further £300. Barry Rugby Club hired a coach and helped in trying to dig out the children trapped in the slurry and the crew of a German vessel in Barry Dock had a whip round. Many people from Barry went up the help at the scene of the tragedy.

The Mayor of Barry's appeal raised £586 in a week; by November 11, it had risen to £1,346. Romilly Bingo Club and film

goers at the Theatre Royal raised £225.

A memorial service at St Peter's Church, Dinas Powys was full – in particular because a former teacher in the village – Mrs Bates – was killed in the disaster.

Collections were made around Rhoose village and in the parishes of Penmark and Porthkerry.

Further afield, the Mayor of St Pol de Leon in Brittany – Penarth's twin town, informed Coun Salmon that £182 had been sent to the Mayor of Merthyr's Aberfan Appeal Fund just before Christmas.

On a personal note – during the 10 years I spent working in the Czech Republic – I spoke to three former miners in the former coal mining district of Zbysov, near the city of Brno.

On finding out I was from south Wales, the gentlemen informed me of the collection, in a bucket, from all the mines – then open – in the district being sent to Wales.

In Sully, the Treweek Girls made a house-to-house collection in aid of the disaster fund, which amounted to £64 and 17 shillings, which was sent to the Mayor of Merthyr's fund.

The outcome of all this? Lord Robens, the chairman of the National Coal Board, appeared dramatically at the end of the tribunal and admitted that the NCB was at fault, so making most of the hearings in the tribunal quite unnecessary.

The tribunal concluded: "...the Aberfan Disaster is a terrifying tale of bungling ineptitude by many men charged with tasks for which they were totally unfitness, of failure to heed clear warnings, and of total lack of direction from above... Blame for the disaster rests upon the National Coal Board... The legal liability of the NCB to pay compensation of the personal injuries, fatal or otherwise, and damage to property, is incontestable and uncontested.

The final twist in this sorry tale is that the Aberfan Appeal Funds had to initially pay towards the removal of the deadly tips and it was years later that the money was repaid – without interest. The Government of the day was Labour. The Prime Minister, Harold Wilson.

I'r rhai a garwn ac y galwyn o'u colli.

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Gibbonsdown by-election is set for November 3

A by-election is taking place for the Gibbonsdown Ward in Barry on Thursday, November 3 – the ward formerly held by Labour's Rob Curtis.

Among the candidates are Robin Hunter-Clarke, who is Neil Hamilton's chief of staff in the Welsh Assembly. Mr Hunter-Clarke is also a councillor on Lincolnshire County Council.

The GEM did ask Mr Hunter-Clarke whether he thought it feasible to combine the three roles. He declined to comment.

The candidates are:

Julie Aviet, Welsh Labour / Llafur Cymru. Jennifer Geroni, Welsh Liberal Democrats / Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru. Dennis Harkus, Independent.

Shirley Hodges, Plaid Cymru – The Party Of Wales.

Robin Hunter-Clarke, UKIP Wales. Leighton Rowlands, Welsh Conservative Party.

Nominate a local hero'

NOMINATIONS for the St David Awards close at midnight on October 21.

Now in their fourth year, the St David Awards acknowledge the achievements of people the length and breadth of the country to recognise contributions made by people from all walks of life.

The St David Awards categories are: bravery; culture; enterprise; citizenship; innovation and technology; international; sport; young person and the First Minister's special award.

Nominating is easy; go to www.stdavidawards.org.uk and put someone forward before midnight on October 21.

BGT coming to Cardiff

Billed as 'the nation's favourite talent show', *Britain's Got Talent* (BGT) is on the road again, scouring the length and breadth of the country to find acts for the new series.

The BGT team is holding auditions at the Swalec Centre in Cardiff on Saturday, October 29, and a spokesperson said: "If you think you've got a talent which can impress and entertain, now is the time to show us what you've got!"

"Successful acts will then be in with a chance of securing a place at one of the judges' auditions in 2017, and the show is open to any performer of any age, with any talent; all they need is a skill and star quality which they think will impress. She also said: "Anything goes, from magicians to comedians, drag acts to singers and acrobats to animals."

Aspiring acts should apply in advance of the audition by visiting www.itv.com/talent and registering for the local audition day later this month.

Executive producer, Amelia Brown, said: "We've had some amazing winners over the last 10 series, from this year's champion – former Para and now a trooper in the Household Cavalry – Richard Jones,

who was the first magician to ever win the show, right through to Paul Potts, Diversity and Collabro.

"We can't wait to see what talent south Wales has to offer. Anyone can apply; there is no age limit and we are looking for all kinds of talents, so if you feel you have something special to show us then make sure you apply, you never know where it might take you."

This year marked the 10th anniversary of BGT with soldier and magician Richard Jones being crowned the winner.

The magician captivated the nation with his mind-reading performances and his moving finale and tribute to WWII PoW and magician, Fergus Ankorn.

Among the show's other successes are: Susan Boyle, who has sold more than 20 million records worldwide; Paul Potts, now a multi-platinum selling artist with more than five million records sold worldwide and in excess of 600 concerts performed; and 2014's winners, Collabro, which has had a number-one album.

For further information, and to register for the auditions, visit www.itv.com/talent.



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Get your glad-rags on to help hospice hikers!

FOUR nurses at the Marie Curie – Cardiff and Vale hospice in Penarth want you to get your gladrags on and join them in an evening of fundraising.

Sam Metcalfe, Lauren James, Sarah Harry and Beth Webster are signed up to take part in the Sri Lanka Trek in 2017 in aid of the hospice, and are holding a fundraising dinner, dance and auction next month.

Taking place on November 19, the evening in aid of the charity, which provides round-the-clock expert care and support to those living with terminal illness and their families, will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Cardiff's Mill Lane.

The four, who have

named themselves the 'Hospice Hikers' are hoping the evening will help them raise vital funds towards their £14,000 total.

The dinner, which starts at 7pm, will include a red carpet entrance, welcome drinks, three course meal and a raffle and auction.

There will be a performance from a Marie Curie choir and a DJ until 1pm.

If you would like to attend, tickets are £40 per head and available from smetcalfe@ hotmail.co.uk, or by calling 074523 488128.

If you would like to donate any items for the auction, please contact Sam on the details above.

GVS video launch

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) hosted an informative AGM on October 13.

A spokesman said: "GVS launched its short video, 'GVS – our story told by you'. The video highlights the outstanding impact of the work local community groups undertake with GVS' support.

The video is available through Facebook, Twitter or directly through the web link: vimeo.com/180309260."

For further details about GVS, contact 01446 741706; email: enquiries@gvs.wales, website: www.gvs.wales.

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INFERNO BARELY RAISES A FLICKER OF EXCITEMENT...

DAN BROWN'S Robert Langdon books have raised pulses in the literary world – but when it comes to adapting them for the big screen, they haven't been quite as successful.

Though both *The Da Vinci Code* and *Angels and Demons* have done reasonably well at the box office, critical reception hasn't been overwhelmingly positive, something that director Ron Howard and star Tom Hanks will hope to put right in *Inferno*.

Yet again adapted from Brown's source novel, it sees Langdon awake in a Florence hospital with no idea how he got there; with the aid of doctor Sienna (Felicity Jones), he starts to piece together his memories and, using clues laid before them, the pair travel in a race against time to stop the unleashing of a virus that will wipe out half of the earth's population...

The last two films based on Dan Brown's books provide the template for what you're likely to encounter here – religious imagery and historical knowledge mixed with a dash of puzzles and a race against time to stop the villain's nefarious scheme using only the lead character's mental nous and slight physicality.

Inferno changes the formula up slightly – here Langdon, having banged his head, is shorn of his mental faculties albeit for a shorter period of time than you might think, thus making this film more of a two-hander as he and his newly-acquired doctor friend Sienna team up in order to track down the deadly virus.

However, in every other

way possible, this third outing still has all the faults and issues the first two films had, in what is a deeply unsatisfying and dull effort.

Yes, you would expect more from the teaming of Ron Howard and Tom Hanks, but as they've shown previously, even these skilled artists can't work wonders with the material they're given.

The very thing that makes

Brown's novels work on the

page – the density, the ever-increasing plot twists – on screen just fall flat and frustrate. There are so many plot twists, double and triple-crosses that by the end you'll do well to remember just who is who and what they want out of the whole situation.

While Howard does his best to give the film a strong visual feel – Langdon's dream sequences of hell on earth are well done, while the messy and muddled climax does have a hint of suspense about it – he is fighting a losing battle, while Hanks' charm yet again fails to make Langdon an interesting character.

The likes of Felicity Jones, Omar Sy and Sidse Babett Knudsen are caught between acting and delivering reams of exposition to keep the viewer in the loop, while the only person who seems like they're having a good time is Irrfan Khan's shadowy security expert, who seems to relish every scene he's in and delivers the most enjoyable turn of the film.

David Koepp may have something of a thankless task adapting Brown's prose

for the screen, but having also adapted *Angels and Demons* he is on a sure-footing; however, the film's constant twisting and turning means that by the end you'll do well to remember just who is who and what they want out of the whole situation.

But in the end, it all gets reduced to characters running from one landmark to another, spouting nonsensical dialogue and just being painfully dull.

It could have been more intriguing, more layered – the argument for the earth's over-population is what drives the virus' creation – but any subtlety is lost in the running and shouting; *Inferno* ends up feeling like a National Treasure for a more mature audience – and that's not a good thing.

VERDICT: Another Dan Brown adaptation, another damp squib of a film, *Inferno* is a dull and limp blockbuster that takes a talented director and cast and saddles them with weak material.

What could have said



by
GARETH JAMIESON

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something interesting about the world's population and how to manage it instead becomes a film where the main script instructions are to run, hide and (in Tom Hanks' case) keep banging your head, the latter hugely more preferable than having to watch this lifeless effort again. Poor.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *National Treasure* (2004), *The Da Vinci Code* (2006).

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Kenzo and Nell – a super pair!



KENZO AND NELL.

THE GEM is years-old and a real working with Dogs sweetheart, very Trust Bridgend to friendly and lots of fun loving homes fun. Nell doesn't like for their canine to be left on her own guests.

A spokeswoman said: "Our dogs of for a forever-home the week are a where they live gorgeous twosome: together and with Kenzo and Nell, children over 11 Kenzo is a 10-year- years of age. If you old Bichon Frise, a think that Nell and very sweet little boy, Kenzo will make who is great with loving additions to people and other your family, call us dogs." Nell is eight- visit our website."

Free bilingual storytime

TWO independent Barry-based businesses are collaborating to offer free bilingual storytime sessions in Barry.

Giggles, of High Street, and Babi Bach are hosting free storytime drop-in sessions every Thursday during term time at 11am and 11.45am. The sessions are suitable for 0 – 5 years and for both fluent Welsh speakers and complete beginners.

The sessions are hosted by Giggles and led by Penni Carr, founder of Babi Bach and a previous winner of the Women In Business award.

Penni said: "Our aim

is to support literacy, to make stories fun and to support families considering their first steps in bilingual education.

"We're delighted to be working with Giggles, who are the primary stockist of bilingual books in the town. It's the perfect fit both for businesses and for the little ones who attend; it's a great introduction to the Welsh language."

Babi Bach offers bilingual music classes from birth to three years at various venues across the Vale. Full details can be found at facebook.com/babibach music or facebook.com/giggles.



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Christmas Party Guide

IZMIR RESTAURANT PROVIDES WONDERFUL DINING – AND A REAL EVENING TO REMEMBER

THE discerning diner is always keen to try a new dining experience and you won't go far wrong if you try Izmir Turkish and Greek Restaurant at 19 Broad Street, Barry.

Its proud boast, which is written above the bar, reads 'Hospitality is our custom' and my wife and I were able to put that claim to the test.

We were greeted warmly by the restaurant barman Anthony and shown to our table.

Ali, the head waiter, was very courteous, friendly, and informative about the dishes available.

We decided to go for the 'Grand Meze', a four course meal, for £22.50 per person.

And what a feast we were served!

But before we started eating Ali presented us with a traditional Turkish aperitif 'Yeni Rakı' which is an alcoholic drink made with aniseed and sultanas. Each drink came in a special ice container to keep it chilled.

The starters came in the form of cold and hot mezes platters.

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I went for the hot mezes platter which contained such delights as 'sucuk', a spicy grilled Turkish sausage, sitting on a bed of sweet peppers; 'haloumi', grilled Cyprus goat's cheese; 'mitit kofte', meat balls in a spicy tomato sauce; garlic mushroom; 'dolmades', vine leaves stuffed with rice and pine kernels; and 'Izmir salad' consisting of tomatoes, onion, cucumber and olive oil dressing.

My wife went for the cold mezes platter. This consisted of 'hounous', mashed chick peas, sesame seed oil, lemon juice and garlic; 'tzatziki', finely chopped cucumber, yoghurt, mint and garlic; a variety of vegetables – such as peppers and carrot sticks for dipping in the 'tzatziki'; 'patlican ezme' containing smoked aubergine puree with mixed yoghurt and garlic; 'dolmades', the vines stuffed with rice, pine kernels and currants, cooked in olive oil; and butter beans served with a tomato sauce. It also came with the Izmir salad.

The platters are usually served for a minimum of two people, but we wanted to experience both kinds. Both were very healthy, containing lots of fresh vegetables and cooked in olive oil. For the calorie conscious these would be good options.

I particularly liked the 'haloumi' and the grilled sausage – both very tasty.

My wife loved the dolmades and hounous.

We then moved on to the main courses which we shared and consisted of 'stifado', a slow-cooked dish of lean pieces of beef, onions, tomatoes, wine, herbs and spices. The beef was so tender it melted in your mouth. It was served with rice, and we agreed it delivered a fantastic flavour. My wife said she hadn't enjoyed such tasty beef.

We also had the Izmir mixed kebab, effectively a mixed grill with a fantastic range of meats, marinated lamb, chicken kebab, lamb ribs and chicken wings grilled on the skewer. There was also a green salad of seasoned, green salad leaves, with olive oil and pomegranate dressing.

At this point we were slowing down a bit – the flavours were delicious.

To accompany the banquet, Ali recommended a Turkish wine Villa Doluca, a white one made from sultanas, which you'd expect to be sweet, but in fact was a refreshing, dry one, and a pleasure to drink.

We finished off with a classic Turkish dessert of 'baklava' made with a traditional Turkish and Greek pastry soaked in syrup with pistachio nuts. We also had a rice pudding made with tree sap. All in all, it was a delightful way to finish off the meal.

We had a wonderful evening and Ali and his staff were very attentive throughout. Plaudits go to the chefs Valentine and Mark.

While we were enjoying our meal we noticed how helpful and amenable Ali and the staff were with all the diners. Nothing was too much trouble and they even took photos for one group of diners.

They went out of their way to ensure everyone had an evening to remember.

Izmir is also the ideal place for a celebration meal or birthday party and sometimes provides entertainment in the form of belly dancers and Turkish music.

It has a high rating on Trip Advisor.

You can either order individual dishes, or go for the cost effective four courses option at £22.95 per person. An early evening (5.30pm – 7.30pm) set menu is £10.95 for two courses.

Weekend specials include two courses for £7.95. There is also a set lunch menu Tuesday to Friday, two courses £6.95 (12pm to 2.30pm). Drinks are obviously on top.

The restaurant has already prepared its Christmas and New Year menu which includes a five course option.

This was an exceptional dining experience and one we would definitely repeat one day.



REVIEW
by TIM CHAPMAN

LEFT:
The staff at Izmir Turkish and Greek Restaurant on Broad Street, Barry, always give their customers a warm welcome.

The Highwayman Inn Fonmon, Rhoose

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ROAST TURKEY	ROAST BEEF
ROAST BEEF	SALMON FILLET
SALMON FILLET	ABERDEEN ANGUS RIBEYE MEATLOAF
ABERDEEN ANGUS RIBEYE MEATLOAF	CHRISTMAS PUDDING
CHRISTMAS PUDDING	SHERRY TRifle
SHERRY TRifle	APPLE PIE & CUSTARD
APPLE PIE & CUSTARD	COFFEE AND MINTS

Lunch Menu

GINGER & PARSNIP SOUP	HONEYDUE MELON BOAT
HONEYDUE MELON BOAT	PRawn COCKTAIL
PRawn COCKTAIL	ROAST TURKEY
ROAST TURKEY	ROAST BEEF
ROAST BEEF	SALMON FILLET
SALMON FILLET	MEATLOAF
MEATLOAF	CHRISTMAS PUDDING
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Vale AM hosts a Senedd reception for Barry artist

ON Friday, October 14 Jane Hutt AM hosted a reception for the Between The Lines exhibition in the Senedd.

The exhibition, which closed on October 20, is a unique record of community life in Wales and UK that now comprises more than 65 people. Each person featured in the exhibition has been nominated by one of the other subjects.

The project was conceived by Barry artist Glyn Pooley, who back in 2011 began a series of portraits of people he knew and who he felt had touched the community in some way. He asked the people he drew to recommend someone they knew personally and who they felt had made an outstanding contribution to the community.

Stuart Egan (Mayor of the Vale) said: "I found it inspirational and thought of my own life and those of others."



Local choirs sing to 5,000 at the Royal Albert Hall

THE Cor Meibion Maesteg choristers and their wives and partners made an early start on Friday, October 14 for the trip to London to take part in the 25th anniversary of the London Welsh festival of male voice choirs.

After booking into the hotel, the rest of the day was free and they were joined in the evening by Kenfig Hill choir and partners for an enjoyable evening of singing and socialising.

After breakfast on Saturday, wives and partners were dropped off in the city centre and the choir taken on to the Royal Albert Hall for the beginning of a long and arduous day of practice with the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama Symphony Orchestra and the musical director for the concert, Edward-Rhys Harry.

At 6.30pm choirs took their places in the auditorium and were welcomed by a 5,000 audience.

At 7pm sharp the concert started with a rousing version of 'March of The Men of Harlech', the ovation from the audience was the start of a wonderful experience for the choirs.

Following this we had two soloists Jessica Robinson and Rhodri Prys Jones, before the choirs continued with 'Yfory', 'Serenade', and then 'Working Man' which was conducted by Nantffyllon's own Dr Haydn James.

Soloists Eirlys Myfanwy Davies and Meilir Jones then did two pieces before the choirs ended the first half with 'Somewhere' from West Side Story, 'When You Are Old' (arr by Edward-Rhys Harry) and then the favourite 'Deus Salutis' to finish.

After a 20-minute break, the choirs started the second half with 'Ride the Chariot' conducted by Eifion Thomas, 'Ise Weary of Waiting' and the wonderful arrangement of 'Rhyfel' by Edward-Rhys Harry.

During this half, an Aberfan commemoration song written and arranged by Edward-Rhys Harry called 'Don't Go Chasing Shadows' performed by Quartet and London Welsh Male Voice Choir was really well received, not only by the audience but also the other choirs.

After arriving back at the hotel, the 'afterglow' with Kenfig Hill will probably be talked about with affection for a long time.

It was very fitting that during the concert the musical directors and accompanists were presented to the audience, in our case Rhian Jenkins and Ryan Wood for the very hard work they have put in over the last two years to get the choir in shape for this prestigious event. The choir are very grateful for their efforts.

On the Sunday the choir with partners went to Covent Garden and did a 'flashmob' performance singing 'Calon Lan' and 'Rachie' – really well received by the spectators, and we arrived home about 7.30pm.

Behind the scenes a lot of hard work has been put in towards arranging the trip and a special thanks must be given to the secretary Nigel Williams, treasurer Gerwyn Thomas and chairman Phillip Bevan Jones.

TH

Cynnydd yn yr ymwelwyr tramor i Gymru – Tourism on the up

MAE'R ffigurau ar gyfer 6 mis cyntaf 2016 yn dangos y bu cynydd yng Nghymru yn nifer yr ymwelwyr tramor sy'n dod i Gymru a chymydd yn eu gwariant yn ystod eu hymniad.

Mae'r Arolwg Teithwyr Rhyngladol, a ghyhoeddir gan y Swyddfa Ystadegau Gwladol, yn dangos i Gymru groesawu 450,000 o deithwyr tramor yn 6 mis cyntaf 2016, cynydd o 15% o'i gymharu â 6 mis cyntaf 2015 a'r cynydd mwyaf o holl wledydd y Deyrnas Unedig.

Mae'r ffigurau'n dangos hefyd, er y bu gystyngiad bach yn eu gwariant yn y DU drwyddi draw, bod gwariant ymwelwyr tramor a Chymru wedi cynyddu mwy na 8%.

O Ewrop y daeth rhwng 75% o'r ymwelwyr rhngladol â Chymru a'r DU yn gyfan yn hanner cynta'r flwyddyn. Daeth cyfanswm o 338,000 o ymwelwyr o Ewrop i Gymru, sy'n 17% anferthol yn uwch nag yna chwba mis cyntaf 2015. Roedd nifer yr ymwelwyr o Ogledd America a Chymru (£40,000) hefyd yn uwch – 10% – o'i gymharu â 6 mis cyntaf 2015.

Dywedodd Ysgrifennyd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith, Ken Skates: "Dyma newyddion aruthrol i Gymru.

"Mae'n amlwg bod ein penderfyniad i dargedu marchnadoedd allweddol yn talu ar ei ganfed ac rydym ar drywydd gwirieddwr nod o ddiwydiant twristiaeth fydd tebu tyfu 10% erbyn 2020.

"A'r Flwyddyn Antur yn prysur dddol i'w therfyn, rydym wrthi'n paratoi i hyrwyddo Cymru yn 2017, Blwyddyn y Chweldau."

Tourism boom continues

FIGURES for the first six months of 2016 show that there has seen a substantial increase in the number of overseas visitors coming to Wales and

a record half year increase in the amount they spend during their visit.

The International Passenger Survey, published by the Office for National Statistics today, shows that Wales welcomed 450,000 overseas visitors in the first six months of 2016, an increase of 15 per cent compared to the first six months of 2015 and the highest increase among the nations of the UK.

The figures also show that while there has been a decrease in expenditure across the UK as a whole, expenditure by overseas visitors in Wales has increased by more than eight per cent.

For Wales and for the UK as a whole, 75 per cent of international visits in this first half year came from Europe.

A total of 338,000 visitors came from Europe to Wales – 17 per cent higher than in the first six months of 2015. Visits from North America to Wales were also 10 per cent up compared with the first six months of 2015.

The Cabinet Secretary for the economy and infrastructure, Ken Skates AM, said: "This is phenomenal news for Wales.

"Our decision to target key growth markets is clearly working and we remain on course to achieve a 10 per cent growth in tourism by 2020. As we approach the end of the Year of Adventure we are gearing up for the promotion of Wales in 2017, our Year of Legends."

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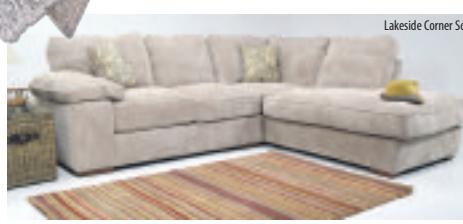
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'Vaccination is the best protection' HOPE FOR 'FLU JAB PATIENTS

WHEN you work in intensive care (ITU) it's not unusual to have several deaths a year from flu-related illnesses. Patients who arrive in ITU with flu-related illnesses often have a 30 per cent risk of dying.

This is the stark reality of the power of flu as seen firsthand by ABMU assistant medical director and 1-care Dave Hope.

He's spent the last 25 years working in intensive care looking after the most seriously ill patients, many of whom have life-threatening conditions.

Last year, 779 people in Wales were treated in hospital for a flu-related illness. Of those, 125 were admitted to intensive care units.

Having seen firsthand the life-threatening conditions caused by flu, Dr Hope explains what makes flu so dangerous and how having your flu vaccination is the best available protection against flu.

"Serious flu attacks



Dr Dave Hope.

the lungs causing viral pneumonia which in turn can lead to bacterial pneumonia.

Patients often arrive in our unit on breathing machines as they are already unable to breathe for themselves. "Pneumonia can also lead to other organs failing, such as the heart and kidneys. That can result in people dying. Flu is often associated with the lungs and chest but it actually knows no boundaries."

"Flu virus prefers to attack the lungs," said Dr Hope, "but it can cause infections of the nervous system and gut. Serious influenza

infections can also cause temporary paralysis."

Dr Hope fully supports the flu vaccination as the best way to protect yourself and others from what can be a life-threatening virus.

He said: "Some groups are more at risk than others including those who are obese because they are immune-suppressed and people with existing health conditions such as heart disease and lung disease."

"If you are in a high risk group, getting the flu jab could literally save your life. An attack of the flu may just mean a few days of misery or it could result in weeks in intensive care fighting for your life."

"We can't predict who will suffer the worst complications but you can shift the odds in your favour by getting vaccinated."

"The flu vaccine isn't 100 per cent effective but it is safe and it gives the best protection available."

If you are in one of the following high-risk groups it is very

important you have your free NHS flu vaccination as soon as possible. Contact your GP surgery to arrange for a vaccination. The flu vaccination is safe and provides the best protection against flu," a spokesperson added.

High risk groups include: pregnant women; those aged 65 years and over; aged six months or older, with a chronic condition such as stroke, asthma, emphysema, diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease or liver disease; immunosuppressed or living with someone who is; and adults with a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or more.

Also, those in long-stay residential care; carers; community First Responders; all children aged two and three years old on August 31, 2015 and four years old but not in school; all children aged four to seven years old (reception class and years 1, 2 and 3 in school).

You can find out more about the flu vaccination at www.abm.wales.nhs.uk/.



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NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY Bees make the most of shorter daylight hours!

THERE is no slowing down of external activity just yet.

The shorter daylight hours are being used at every opportunity, which, thanks to the present mild conditions, means that nectar and pollen collecting is still going on apace.

A reduction in egg laying is observable in some colonies but not all; in fact my Varroa mite monitoring programme is proof positive that queens are laying.

How do I know this? Well, thanks to the weather, I have been able to open up selected colonies and see frames that display eggs, larvae and sealed brood, visible proof that the queen is still very active and additions to the colony are still continuing.

Without opening a colony, I only have to examine the contents of the under floor trays that are in place on several colonies to confirm this.

How does the content of a tray come about? Well, the floor of the hive is made up with a fine mesh. This is quite acceptable to the bees and of course anything falling down is collected in the tray.

How do the tray contents tell me that egg laying is still going on? The numbers of Varroa mites that I count indicate very well queen activity – or lack of same.

So how is the link made? The contents of a tray are collected into a glass jar and identified with colony number and date.

What makes up this tray debris? It is bee wings, parts of bees, Varroa mites (dead), pollen grains, and a variety of smaller insects that live on the fallen debris of a hive of bees.

The counting of the Varroa is aided by the use of a 5" magnifying glass with a built-in light and a white enamelled dish.

Small amounts from each sample are placed in the dish and counting begin. This can and does take time, but it is well worth the effort.

If I have a large count, that tells me that a queen must be laying, as the Varroa mite carries out its breeding cycle on the developing larvae that was produced from an egg laid by a queen.

Let us examine the breeding cycle of the mite; it gets underway once the egg laid by the queen develops into a larva. This larva is nourished and attended to by nurse bees and after several days of care, food will be deposited in the cell and the larva will be sealed in with a coating of wax, metamorphosis gets underway and transformation from larva to bee takes place.

The Varroa mite is ever present on the nurse bees and is well attuned to their activity. When the sealing of the larvae is about to commence, a Varroa mite leaves a nurse bee and goes into the cell and in its turn, is sealed in along with the larva.

The larvae are now a source of nourishment and a breeding site for the female Varroa.

The first born is a male and he will mate with his mother, as the days pass she will produce at least four daughters, who will be mated by this male who is their brother.

His life is now terminated; his sole purpose for being (that of a sperm bank) is complete. When the bee finally emerges, so do the mites (all females) so where one went in, at least five come out!

And the queen bee, who has the ability to lay some 2,000 eggs per day, is providing numerous sites for the Varroa to multiply.

The mites I am counting will have carried out several breeding cycles and do, of course, eventually die. It is not at all unusual for the count to be several hundred and sometimes many more.

Lots of mites indicate a laying queen, but will the queen stop laying as winter approaches?

Our beekeeping literature says they will; however, mild winters have become commonplace and the weather is the dominant factor in the bees and the beekeepers' world so sometimes the breeding of bees and mites goes on all year round.

There is of course much more to this bee/Varroa association and it behoves all beekeepers to address the situation.

Many beekeepers do not monitor for Varroa at all, and many that do only glance at board inserts or trays and from this casual approach come to the conclusion that all is well and they do not have mites at all.

Due to the mite's small size, they can easily be overlooked among a tray of floor debris. It is my close inspection that provides me with a true picture.

Am I the only beekeeper who has a multiple mite problem? Perhaps some of the other beekeepers just might give me a sample from one of their colonies to examine? Maybe not!

Anyway, I will continue with my mite counting and hope that just maybe someone else will be curious enough to do the same.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

10k charity walkers on £10k! target

THE George Thomas Hospice Care's 10km walk was supported by friends and family as they walked in memory of someone they love, to raise funds for the charity and its work as Cardiff's local hospice, caring for patients diagnosed with a terminal illness, and their families.

Joined 10Kfor10K, the walk started at the iconic Principality Stadium and was blessed with beautiful autumn weather. Walkers were treated to a talk from former Wales and British Lions forward, Craig Quinell, before they set off on their walk, starting with a lap around the iconic pitch and then embarking on their route through Bute Park, Pontcanna Fields and Llandaff Fields.

6ft 6in Craig completed the course with his fellow walkers, who were delighted to chat along the way: "I still like to keep fit and with the weather as nice as it is today, a worthy cause and good company, I really enjoyed myself," Craig said.

Chief Executive Officer of George Thomas Hospice Care, Mike Walsh reported: "With the amazing fundraising of the walkers, and the generous sponsorship of Pigeons of Cardiff, we are well on course to achieving our target of raising £10,000 to pay for 500 hours of additional nursing care."

Making (sound) waves over at Cosmeston Lakes

The sound units have arrived.



AS part of Tesco's 'Bags of Help' initiative, Cosmeston Lakes Country Park has now received new 'Audio Nature Trail' units, which will provide visitors with detailed descriptions as they walk through the nature reserve.

The self-powered, wind-up sound store units will be located at key focus points around the main lake.

The initiative is a grant scheme that sees money raised from the Government's 5p charge for plastic carrier bags being used for local projects.

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Aberfan: The Green Hollow

**Friday, October 21, BBC One Wales, 9pm
Sunday, October 23, BBC Four, 8pm**



Sian Phillips.



Michael Sheen plays Dan as an adult.

SOME of Wales' best known acting talent including Michael Sheen, Jonathan Pryce, Siân Phillips, Eve Myles, Eiry Thomas and Iwan Rheon star in *Aberfan: The Green Hollow* – a 60 minute film-poem written by multi-award winning poet, novelist and playwright Owen Sheers and directed by Pip Broughton (*Under Milk Wood*).

The script draws on interviews with survivors, parents and those involved in the rescue operation, many of whom have never before spoken about their experiences.

The film uses verse, imagery and music to explore the identity of the village before and after the tragedy. It aims to embrace the disaster's legacy as well as celebrating the strength of the community today.

Michael Sheen said: "Even though what happened in Aberfan took place three years before I was born, I grew up with an awareness of it. Nothing can compare to the unimaginable suffering that was inflicted upon that community, but it was a suffering that

resonated with the whole country and beyond.

"From the moment you first hear the story of October 21 and try to imagine what that day must have been like for everyone there, it stays with you for the rest of your life. It certainly has with me."

Jonathan Pryce added: "Nothing I can write or say can come close to expressing the power of this film. I can only share the huge sadness and anger that this disaster was allowed to happen."

"My father was a miner from when he left school until he married my mother. He was in a pit fall. Men around him died and he carried the scars on his back all his life."

"Miners in terrible working conditions knowingly faced those dangers, but they could never have imagined that the negligence and arrogance of the NCB (National Coal Board) could ever result in such devastation above ground."

Siân Phillips said: "No-one who lived through that day has been unmarked. All over the world the name Aberfan evokes the same response of sorrow and a measure of anger that such a thing could happen."



Mothers and children, played by Kimberley Nixon and Nell Olivia James; Shelley Rees and Tegan James; Eve Myles and Christopher Benning.

The 'double marathon' men step out for two charities



Barney and Phil on their walk.

ON Saturday and Sunday, October 8-9, Phil 'Barney' Jones and Phil Duckworth undertook walking marathons on the Wales Coastal Path.

Their aim was to raise money for Velindre and Help for Heroes, charities which are close to their hearts.

Barney explained: "A few years ago, I was diagnosed with a rare form of skin cancer and was very grateful for the care I received from cancer specialists; but also my eldest sister died from lung cancer and the care she received at Velindre was remarkable. These people are very special and this is some small token of appreciation."

Phil also said: "Having spent eight years in the RAF, I fully appreciate what Help for Heroes does for those serving their countries, so it's nice to give something back."

To donate, contact www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Philip-Jones37

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HUNDREDS OF VISITORS ATTEND WORLD WAR TWO WEEKEND AT FAMOUS 'HUT 9'



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The Hut 9 Preservation Group recently staged the latest of their Open Weekends at the site of the former Second World War Camp at Island Farm, Bridgend and entertained over 600 visitors.

The site of the famous 'Welsh Great Escape', this former WW2 German prisoner of war camp is sealed to visitors for much of the year, but twice annually the locked doors of the hut from which this escape was made are opened to allow hundreds of visitors a rare look inside this unique building.

Members of the preservation group and over fifty living historians dressed in period uniforms gave talks and guided tours inside the hut. A number of WW2 military vehicles were also on site.

Brett Exton, the group's treasurer, gave illustrated talks on the history of the site, and Richard Williams, the group's vice-chair, told visitors about the work the group has done since its formation in 2012.

Every penny donated by visitors to these special openings is spent on improving the visitor experience. In the last year, under the guidance of group member Wayne Gill, the group has renovated a nearby derelict building to convert it into a Visitors Centre and this building now contains a re-creation of the night that 70 Germans escaped through a tunnel dug from one of the rooms in Hut 9.

The group has also worked hard to kit out the rooms inside Hut 9 to give visitors an insight into its fascinating past.

A replica guard tower has been constructed, and military historians were on hand to tell visitors about the history of the site, from its occupation by female workers at the nearby ordnance factory to its housing hundreds of German prisoners of war.

Also on display were dozens of original wall paintings made by the occupants over 70 years ago. A replica NAAFI café, staffed by volunteers, provided refreshments, while group member Stel Anthony recorded the memories of visitors who remembered the site in its heyday.

The group's chairman, Dr. Jonathan Hicks, said, "We were delighted at the high number of visitors to the site, and the wonderful comments made on our preservation work by people of all ages. This Open Weekend was fully booked up months in advance, which gives some idea of the scale of public interest in this historic site. I am now taking bookings for our 2017 events, and half of the 600 tickets have already been snapped up."

Donations to the Hut 9 voluntary group, which is seeking to assure the future of the site, are welcomed and allow the group to make even more improvements to the building and surrounding area.

To reserve a place on the Hut 9 tours on March 11 to 12, 2017 email Dr. Hicks at: bookings@hut9.org.uk

Details of the tours are available via the group's website: www.hut9.org.uk.



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BARRY CAMERA CLUB ENJOYS VIVID 'JOHN WAYNE COUNTRY'



Blowing in the breeze by Barbra Archdale-Smith.



Old balcony by Andrew Hallum.



Owl butterfly by Phil Stillman.



Sunlit by Catherine Charlton-Whittaker.

BARRY Camera Club's first meeting of the new season was on Friday, September 2 where new members were welcomed and the season's event schedule presented.

On Friday, September 9, we welcomed the highly regarded Margaret Collis who gave a presentation entitled 'An Evening With Margaret Collis'.

Margaret, a former WCPF president, is a much-travelled, highly experienced photographer specialising in travel photography. She gave a stunning presentation of prints from the United States taken on a recent trip, and the images of Bryce Canyon in the Utah National park reminded us all of the scenery in the old John Wayne westerns.

Death Valley was another location featured and the images were so realistic that one felt that one could actually feel the heat.

Other pictures were taken in Indo-China, particularly Laos and Cambodia featuring street scenes, farming landscapes and the local peoples and some interesting pictures taken in Singapore during a monsoon rain shower.

Friday, September 16, saw the arrival of Dave Mason, who gave us a presentation entitled 'A Slice Of Life'.

Dave is an accomplished street photographer who specialises in catching people in interesting situations in public places.

Totally un-staged, Dave's photos made use of what he referred to as 'borrowed-art', namely billboards, advertising hoardings, road signs, street furniture such as litter bins etc. and even graffiti.

Although working predominantly in black and white as his favourite medium, Dave used colour when the image demanded it and showed us an interesting series of images featuring yellow lines, brightly coloured graffiti and shop-front signage.

Perhaps most unusual was his use of infra-red photography in a street environment; a rare use of this medium which is usually seen in nature and landscape photography. This was a fascinating evening and we look forward to welcoming Dave in a return visit at some time in the future.

The third meeting in September was hosted by our own Roy Carr. Roy is a stalwart of the club and has recently retired from an extended stint as our competitions secretary which has finally allowed him time to concentrate on putting together his applications for Associateship of the Royal Photographic Society and Associateship of the Welsh Photographic Federation.

To apply for these distinctions it is necessary to present a panel of images, and the topic of the presentation was a demonstration of the best ways of making a panel of one's prints.

To gain acceptance, it is important to present a group of prints that sit well together as a complete unit, even if they are not necessarily the photographer's favourite prints, rather than a 'mish-mash' of a dozen top quality individual prints that just don't work together.

Roy presented previous distinction winning panels of club members and we all discussed the decisions that had been made, which gave us an insight into how we would go about this if we were to apply for such distinctions ourselves, and on this point, we all wish Roy the very best with his applications, but given the high quality of his work Roy certainly won't need luck!

Friday, September 30, being the last Friday of the month, saw our monthly competition night. The judge this month was Glyn Pooley, a noted events and portrait photographer.

Glyn gave a thorough critique to all entries and offered some sound advice to the members whose offerings were not marked highly.

The results were: Monochrome Print: 1st place and 20 points to Hugh Winnan for 'Atlantic Cinema'; 2nd

place and 19 points to Barbra Archdale-Smith for 'The Po-Faced Gondolier'; 3rd place and 18 points to Mike Lewis for 'Calanais Stones'.

Colour Print: 1st place and 20 points to Barbra Archdale-Smith for 'The Director's Chair'; 2nd place and 19 points to Roy Carr for 'Corfe Castle Down'; joint third place and 18 points each to Barbra Archdale-Smith for 'Four Birds And Mary' and Glenn Porter for 'On A Road To Nowhere'.

Projected Image: 1st place and 20 points to Phil Stillman for 'Owl Butterfly'; Joint 2nd place and 19 points each to Andrew Hallum for 'Old Balcony' and Barbra Archdale-Smith for 'Blowing In The Breeze'; 3rd place and 18 points to Catherine Charlton-Whittaker for 'Sunlit'.

Congratulations to all who entered, once again to Barbra for multiple successes but also to Cath and Andrew who are not among the regular prize winners.

Throughout the remainder of the 2016-2017 season we have a full programme of demonstrations, talks, photographic expeditions, competitions and inter-club battles planned.

New members are particularly encouraged and will be made most welcome with a programme being prepared especially for the new and less experienced photographers to allow them to quickly gain more proficiency and satisfaction from their hobby.

Barry Camera Club meets every Friday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm at St Francis Millennium Centre, Porth-y-Castell, Barry Garden Suburb, Barry, CF62 6NX. We are a very friendly organisation and new members of all experience and skill levels are always welcome to attend with no obligation to join. Alternatively, for more information visit www.barrycameraclub.co.uk

RN



The SWP Mounted Division.

'Be aware of horse riders' DRIVERS ARE WARNED

MANY motorists need to learn how to pass horses properly on country roads – according to the British Horse Society.

Figures compiled by the group show that about 130 road incidents have been reported to them in Wales alone, since they launched their horse accidents website in November 2010.

Representatives of the British Horse Society met with Vale MP Alun Cairns and Andrew RT Davies AM to discuss the issue of road safety for riders at the South Wales Police Mounted Section HQ last Friday.

Mounted officers explained that only that morning their horses had been spooked by drivers passing horses too quickly and closely.

Welsh Secretary of State, Alun Cairns, remarked: "When drivers are passing even police horses inappropriately, it is clear that the primary cause of this problem is not deliberately anti-social driving, but ignorance. I fully support the aims of the BHS and the 'Pass Wide and Slow' campaign who seek to educate drivers

about the danger caused by spooking horses.

"Horses are prey animals and easily startled. Riders never have full control of the animal, and when it bolts it can cause serious damage and injury to motorist and rider alike."

South Wales Police is encouraging riders not to use busy roads, and to avoid likely periods of congestion. They also warned riders not to react aggressively to inappropriate driving, but to explain to drivers, if possible, the consequences of startling horses.

Jan Roche of the British Horse Society, said: "Since we launched our accident reporting website there have been 38 rider deaths and 212 horses killed or had to be euthanised following a road incident."

Riding campaigners are seeking to alter the Highway Code to include sections on safely passing horses, and are petitioning the Welsh Assembly to begin a public education drive on the issue.

Vale AM joins the Post Office 'sit-in'



Jane Hutt with protesters at the Post Office

ON Friday, October 14, Vale AM Jane Hutt joined protesters at Barry Crown Post Office for a 'sit-in' in response to the decision by the Post Office to close the branch.

The sit-in was organised by Mrs Tracey Roberts who was concerned at the inconvenience to disabled and elderly people.

Ms Hutt said: "Earlier this year, I launched a vigorous campaign to save our Crown Post Office and my petition attracted thousands of signatures, demonstrating the strength of public feeling on this issue. I also produced a report as part of the

consultation process.

"The Post Office itself has acknowledged that the Christmas peak time is so busy, that it will be delaying closure until after then, which begs the question, how will it cope next Christmas once the Crown Office has closed?

"The Post Office has also acknowledged that there are gaps in provision in the Western part of Barry and it will be advertising for a potential operator in that area to supplement service provision.

"Surely this proves that the closure of the Crown Post Office is not justified? It is unthinkable that Barry, the largest town in Wales, will lose its Post Office."

Hunt begins for livestock champion

NFU Cymru is launching its annual award to find the best livestock person working in Wales, with the award winner receiving a top prize of £300 and a Welsh Royal Crystal trophy.

The 'Welsh Livestock Champion of the Year Award', now in its third year, is sponsored jointly by NFU Cymru and NFU Mutual, and the award seeks to champion dedicated, committed and enthusiastic livestock personnel from all across Wales.

Wyn Evans, chairman of NFU Cymru's Livestock Board, said: "We want to recognise the key role a good livestock person can make to a farm and to the Welsh livestock industry as a whole."

Potential award winners will be judged on how they incorporate health and safety in their day-day activities on-farm, care and management of the herd, the breeding programme, their handling skills, their involvement in the livestock enterprise, online vision for the future of the industry and their

knowledge of the Welsh livestock industry."

The closing date for entries is Monday, October 31 and the winner will be announced at the Royal Welsh Winter Fair, at Llanelwedd, Builth Wells on Monday, November 28.

Dai Davies OBE, chairman of NFU Mutual's Advisory Board for Wales, said: "The quality of the stockmanship is a major factor in determining the success of any livestock business. We have some superb stockpeople involved in the industry in Wales and I am confident that this will be a keenly contested competition and one which NFU Mutual is pleased to support as the leading rural insurer in Wales."

Anyone interested in entering the award, should contact NFU Cymru for more details and an application form. Write to: NFU Cymru Livestock Award, NFU Cymru, RWAS S h o w g r o u n d , Llanelwedd, Builth Wells LD2 3TU, or call 01982 554200; the form can also be downloaded online from www.nfcymru.org.uk.

ALL AGES FEEL 'THE BURN' AS FAMILIES ENJOY CHALLENGE AT MARGAM PARK

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

A "perfect mix of adventure challenges" was the verdict of a highly successful Burn Series event at Margam Park recently.

Over 250 competitors, many of them families from seven to seventy years old tested their skills in running, cycling, kayaking, orienteering and climbing.

The more committed athletes entered the tougher of the two races and seasoned Burn competitor Jeremy Holmes from Penarth braved both the Burn (10km run, 1km kayak, 40km Mountain bike orienteering) as well as the Mini Burn (3km run, 1km kayak, 10km Mountain bike) on the same day with podium positions in both.

Penarth teacher Jodie Barber, who competed with her husband Andrew and their daughter Evie and son Gethin, said: "It was well organised and pitched just at the right level for families to enjoy together."

International adventure racer Maria Leijerstam from the Vale of Glamorgan, who organised the event, commented: "It was great to see so many people enjoying the sport that I love."



The Vale building winners head for national awards

The award winners now head to London for the National Building Excellence Awards in November.

In April, LABC Cymru held the 21st South Wales Building Excellence Awards at the Vale Resort.

Vale Council winners then went on to compete against finalists from north Wales at the All Wales Building Excellence awards.

Taylor Wimpey were named 'Best Large Developers' for Channel Heights, Rhoose.

DS Properties won 'Best Conversion' for the Pump House in Barry.

Both Welsh winners will now compete as finalists at the National Building Excellence Awards in London.



Taylor Wimpey's winning Channel Heights development.



First Minister is in the pink for charity!

AHEAD of this year's Wear It Pink day on October 21, Bridgend AM Carwyn Jones recently joined other Assembly Members at the Senedd and dressed up in a range of 'pink' accessories to support the event, Breast Cancer Now's flagship fundraising event.

Breast Cancer Now funds research into breast cancer. Last year, the Wear It Pink event raised over

£2million for ground-breaking research and since the very first event in 2002, over £27 million has been raised.

Carwyn Jones AM said: "Wear It Pink is a fun and simple way for everyone to get involved and I am very proud to take part in Wear It Pink and show my support for those affected by breast cancer. I would encourage people to don their favourite pink items on October 21 and support this worthwhile event, to stand together against breast cancer."

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...

www.barry-today.co.uk
www.cowbridge-today.co.uk
www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk



First Minister Carwyn Jones, AM for Bridgend.



Boys and Girls' footie boost

SECURITAS, one of the largest security providers in the UK has announced that it has become a sponsor of Wyndham Boys and Girls club football for the 2016/17 season.

The sponsorship agreement is for an initial 12-month period and includes shirt sponsorship for the under-12s team.

Speaking about the sponsorship, Adam Griffiths, the south Wales manager, commented: "At Securitas we

take seriously our commitment to the communities in which we are based and operate.

"We actively support a range of local organizations and good causes and recognise the important and positive effect we can have on local communities.

"We are delighted to be able to support the on-going growth and success of the Wyndham Boys and Girls Club and we will look on with pride and interest when the under-12s team take to the field in their Securitas shirts."

Andrew Davies, speaking on behalf of the Wyndham Football

Club, said: "Wyndham Boys and Girls Football Club are extremely pleased to have secured a sponsorship deal with Securitas and we hope it will be the start of a long term partnership.

"It is also a great opportunity to give a successful business exposure at matches across the region now we are playing in the Bridgend & District Football League.

"Thank you to Securitas for their much valued support and local contact."

AG

Who wants to build what and where in the county borough?

Greggs Plc – Unit 3a, Parc Plaza, Waterton – One fascia sign on rear elevation.

Dolcast Ltd – Plot 4c (east of Dolcast Ltd), Heol Mostyn, Village Farm Industrial Estate, Pyle – Erect 8 x 1000 sq ft (93m²) industrial starter units. Erection of single storey extension to existing industrial unit.

Police and Crime Commissioner – South Wales Police HQ, Cowbridge Road, Bridgend – Prior notification for demolition of Ty Coffi building and Police Operations and Support offices.

Ms Laura Pearce – Gorwyl House (Gorwyl Flats 1-3), Gorwyl Road, Ogmore Vale – Conversion of existing building from three two-bedroom flats to six one-bedroom flats.

Master L McGuire – 42 Hermon Road, Majeste – Single storey extension to rear and ramped access to front.

Mr Craig Thomas – 27 Llwyn Castan, Broadlands, Bridgend – First floor extension to garage conversion to habitable room.

Mrs Susan Jones – 40 Glynllan, Blackmill – New stepped access to front entrance.

Mrs Andrea Burrows – 18 Waterhall Road, Kenfig Hill – Single storey extension to rear (lobby and shower room).

Mrs Natalie Pace – 13 Ffordd y Goedwig, Pyle – Demolish conservatory and erect a single storey bedroom extension.

Mr S Budge – 33 Heol y Llwyni, Maesteg – Two storey side extension and new porch.

Miss Jordan Richards – 77 Bakers Way, Sarn – Single storey extension to rear garden lobby and shower room.

Pegasus – Land east of Mynydd Margm, Port Talbot – Screening opinion for proposed wind turbine.

Dr A Palmer – Garden of 5 Flatholme Way, Nottage, Porthcawl – Extend time period of previous application P/11/645/RLX for a further five years.

Mr T Dawkins – Land adj Ty Egwyws, Newcastle Hill, Bridgend – Amendments to approval P/13/647/FUL

for a two and a half storey single detached dwelling.

Cardiff Readymix – Plot 116 Village Farm Road, Village Farm Industrial Estate – Approval of details for conditions 4, 5, 6 and 8 of P/16/137/FUL.

Parish of Newton Nottage Church in Wales – St Davids Church, Florence Street, Porthcawl – Remove two dying trees, crown lift and thin two willows,

crown lift horse chestnut, thin and crown lift silver birches.

Mrs Mavis Martin – Hermon Chapel, Nolton Street, Bridgend – Construct covered canopy from rear door to toilets 7.2m long.

Richard Bluett – Land rear of 99 Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend – Resubmission of P/16/458/RES.

Stephen Rudd – The School House, School Terrace, North Cornelly – Make entrance in front of new extension, erect double gates, lower kerb and re-tarmac to match the existing.

LRM Planning Ltd – Land at Brackla Industrial Estate – Variation of condition 167 of outline consent which relates to noise attenuation to allow for a limited number of plots to exceed the 55dBa level.

Mr Calvin Anstee – Cefn Carfan Ganol Farm, Heol Laethog, Bryncethin – Prior notification to replace an existing dilapidated building with new building for storage of implements and hay.

Mr and Mrs Hobbs – 16 Priory Avenue, Bridgend – Single storey rear extension with attached side garage.

Russell Kennedy – 89 Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend – Single storey extension to rear.

Mr A Williamson – 66 Fairfield Road, Bridgend – Extension to provide family room, utility and shower.

Mr Paul Davies – Leckwith Cottage, Leckwith Court, Bridgend – Programme of works to ash, sycamore and cherry trees, including felling and crown reduction.

David Roberts – Fairfield, 28 Hillcrest, Penyfai – Demolish existing extension and decking and replace with two storey extension and single storey extension with roof terrace above.

Mr Paul Webber – The Vestry, Meadow Street, Pontycymmer – Convert vestry and attached hall to 3 flats.

Valleys to Coast – Llys Ton, Waunbant Road, Kenfig Hill – Safety improvements to roof, including install handrail to roof edge, form access door through existing window and install access stair.

Adam Cooper – 5 Cae Derwen, Litchard – 40 per cent height reduction and spread of trees on south boundary.

Porthcawl Harbourside CIC – East Pier, Porthcawl Marina – Install a fixed crane with a piled concrete base and associated works for the lowering and raising of boats to and from the marina.

Greggs Plc – Unit 3a, Parc Plaza, Waterton – Non material amendment to P/16/281/ful; move position of air

conditioning units.

Mr Dean Morgan – Pant y Gibwn Farm, Blackmill – Approval of details for condition 5 of P/15/840/FUL.

Ms D Richards – 7 Plousane Road, Pencoed – Single storey extension to rear to extend kitchen and dining room.

Mr Alun Clemett – Carreg Llywd, Heol Spencer, Coity – Remove lower branches on two ash trees.

BCBC Harbour Master – Porthcawl Harbour, Porthcawl – Erect two 8m flagpoles; one will require a foundation to fit the base plate and one will require four threads to be fixed in existing concrete.

Mr Geraint Parry – 50 Cwmfelin, Blackmill – Single storey outbuilding and raised decking area.

Crackerjack Fireworks – 12 Garth Drive, Brackla Industrial Estate – Proposed dog bathing facility including side canopy structure and retention of existing retail operations.

Llan Mini Market – 12 Bridgend Road, Llangynwyd – Rear extension and side staircase enclosure.

HD Limited – 27 Caroline Street, Bridgend – Approval of details for condition 2 of P/16/522/FUL.

Mobile Mini (UK) – Former dairy site, North Road, Bridgend Industrial Estate – Approval of details for condition 4 of P/16/353/FUL.

Mr Phil Hope – Plot 15, Land north of Abergavenny Farm, Brynmynmen – Approval of details for conditions 2, 4, 6 and 7 of P/16/391/RES.

Mr J and Mrs E Williams – Greyfriars Barn, Clevis House, Porthcawl – Non material amendments to P/15/351/FUL.

Mr Mark Jones – 52 Fulmar Road, Porthcawl – Single storey side extension.

H D Ltd – 14 Dunraven Place, Bridgend – Alterations to elevations to close/form window/door openings.

Persimmon Homes – Areas R21 and R22, Parc Derwen, Bridgend – Approval of details for conditions 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of P/16/227/RES.

Persimmon Homes – Parc Derwen Playing Fields, Coity – Approval for conditions 2 and 3 of P/16/501/RES.

Mrs Donna Davies – 17 Wyndham Street, Evanstown – Three storey rear extension.

Mrs Mary Watkins – 45 Onslow Terrace, Tondu – Roof extension to dormer bungalow.

Kelly Bevan – 45 Park View, Maesteg – Rising of roof height to incorporate rear dormer, front dormer in new roof plane, conservatory to rear.

Mrs Elaine Groves – Side of 8 Glanant Row, Shwt, Bridgend – Construct a pair of semi-detached houses.

Greggs Plc – Unit 5, Brackla Street Centre, Bridgend – Non material amendment to P/16/594/FUL to reposition entrance doors and reconfigure internal layout.

Hugo Bank – 13 West Drive, Porthcawl – Extensions to front side/rear of property stories and new roof.

Mrs Debra Thomas – 29 Well Street, Laleston – Single storey front extension.

HD Ltd – 14 Dunraven Place, Bridgend – Internal strip out works, La Strada.

Mr Hossein Rezaei – 27 Caroline Street, Bridgend – Change of use A1 to A3 ground floor, upper floors to remain as storage; Advertisement consent for new fascia signage.

Master Jay James – 18 Maesteg Row, Maesteg – Single storey extension, lobby/bedroom/ensuite (special needs adaptations).

Mr Lyndon Griffiths – 2 Eleanor Close, Pencoed – Conversion of existing garage to a summer play house/play room by increasing the height of the structure by approximately 400mm.

BCBC Fleet and Highways – Highways, Waterton, Bridgend – Prior notification for demolition of pitched roof single

storey building and offices, two storey and single storey building and offices, single storey flat roof wheelie bin store, single storey pitched roof training school building.

Leckwith Properties Ltd – Dunraven Hotel, 3 Blackmill Road, Bryncethin – Extend the time allowed to submit details to address conditions on

P/16/117/NMA for a further two months.

BCBC Education and Family Support – Caretakers House, Heronsbridge School, Ewenny Road, Bridgend – Change of use from existing domestic dwelling (Caretakers House) to Social Services Day Centre Facility for service users with ASD single rear extension.

Internal alts to Heron House and removal of two pine trees.

Mr and Mrs Brian – Graigwen, Hendre Road, Pencoed – Agricultural building (resubmission).

Persimmon Homes – Former Ogmore Comprehensive School Playing Fields, Abergavenny Road, Brynmynmen – Approval of details for conditions 2, 3, 5, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 22, 24 and 25 of P/16/62/FUL.

Persimmon Homes – Parcel R15, Parc Derwen, Coity – Approval of details for conditions 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 of P/16/257/RES.

Mr Richard Knight – Veronica Cottage, West Road, Porthcawl – Additional structural works pursuant to listed building consent P/13/691/LIS including repairing and replacement of structural timbers and stabilising of the first floor element of the existing brickwork external walls.

Stuart Davies – 92 Heol West Plas, Coity – Single storey extension to rear elevation.

Ward Jones (Bridgend) Ltd – Land at Moor Lane, Nottage – Change of use of land for the provision of high quality self-catering mobile wooden chalets, tourist accommodation and supporting facilities, affecting Footpath 12, Porthcawl (amended site layout plan received).

Mr Shayban Al-Ibrahim – Unit 4, Parc Plaza, Waterton Road, Bridgend – One non-illuminated fascia sign.

Titorich Chicken House Manokans Ltd – Unit 1, Garth Drive, Brackla Industrial Estate – Change of use of healthy cafe, restaurant and made to order takeaway to support the crossfit members within the building.

Richard Benyon – 8 Nant y Wennol, Broadlands, Bridgend – Retention of garden shed as a hobby room.

Mr Stephen Peachey – 15 Close Cornelius, South Cornelly – Two storey extension to gable end for extended kitchen and garage on ground floor and master bedroom above (resub of P/16/352/FUL).

Persimmon Homes – Land east of A4061 (BNDR) – Non material amendment of P/14/464/OUT to vary condition 29 to read 'Properties alongside the northern and eastern boundaries (which border the industrial estate and vacant land) shall not exceed 3 storeys in height.'

Mr Jonathan David – Land adj 39 Jubilee Road, Bridgend – Approval of details for conditions 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9 of P/16/431/FUL.

The Rest (Porthcawl) Ltd – The Rest Convalescent Home, Rest Bay, Porthcawl – Approval of details for condition 1 of P/11/782/LIS and condition 12 of P/14/763/FUL.

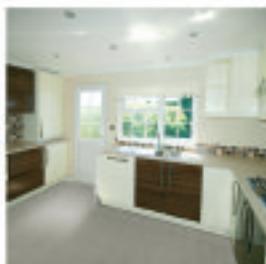
South Wales Tree Services – 29 Hollyhock Drive, Brackla – Reduce overhanging lateral branches by approximately 4-5 metres on group of oak trees growing towards the property.



**OPEN
WEEKEND**
Fri 21st Oct
– Sun 23rd Oct
10.00am – 4.00pm

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WHAT'S ON, WHEN, AND WHERE

Valeways walks

ON Wednesday, October 26 at 10.30am, the Cosmeston Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Cosmeston Country Park outside the visitor centre.

Also on October 26 at 2.30pm, the Llantwit Major Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Llantwit Major Town Hall car park.

On Thursday, October 27 at 10am, 'I don't think we have been here before!', starting at the Sycamore Tree pub in Colwinston.

On Monday, October 31 at 7pm, Scare Fest Walk – bring torches; masks optional, starting at St Peter's Church, Mill Road, Dinas Powys.

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, October 20, Cowbridge Art Society welcomes Pembrokeshire artist Graham Hadlow, who will give a demonstration of painting a Welsh landscape scene in watercolour.

The next meeting will be on November 3, when Barry artist Carl Chappel will give a demonstration of painting a portrait or figure in oils.

The society welcomes artists at any level, and also non-artists who would like to see demonstrations of various art techniques; or attend illustrated lectures on art topics.

We meet on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm – 9pm) and occasional visitors and new members are most welcome.

For details of the society's programme and activities visit www.cowbridgearsociety.com and www.facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas/?ref=bookmarks.

Brass band concert

THE Vale of Glamorgan Brass Band will perform on October 22 at Rhoose Community Centre (CF62 3EZ) accompanied by solo Rob Westacott and singer Patsy Hunt.

Doors open at 7pm for 7.15pm start and tickets (£5) are available on the door or from band members.

Music at lunchtime

ON Monday, October 24 Scott Baker (classical guitar) will be at All Saints' Church, Penarth at 1pm. Bring your lunch; teas and coffee available.

Entry is free, however donations towards the organ restoration will be gratefully received.

Half term hours at thrift shop

THE Thrift Shop, Woodpecker Square in St Athan will be closed for half term October 24 – 28.

It will re-open Monday, October 31 at 10am.

Poppy Appeal

THE Royal British Legion (RBL) is asking for volunteers for the 2016 Poppy Appeal from October 24 to November 12.

Anyone, with military service or not, interested in volunteering, should contact Andrew Reekie, Bridgend branch of the RBL on 01656 669988.

Fun quiz

A SHINE Cymru fun quiz with Phil Steele from BBC Wales Scrum V as quizmaster, will be held during Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Awareness Week (Thursday, October 27 at 7pm) at Whitmore &

Jackson, Friars Road, Barry Island (CF62 5TJ).

Tickets £10 (includes buffet) available from Whitmore & Jackson, or Sian Prince on 07789 616416.

Society AGM

THE Llantwit Major Horticultural Society's AGM will be held on Wednesday, October 26 at 7.30pm in Llantwit Major Hall, Llantwit Major.

A minimum of 30 members is required, so please come along!

Gardening club

THE next meeting of Cowbridge Gardening Club will be held on Thursday, October 27 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall when the speaker, Claire Revere, will give demonstration of 'Festive Willow Weaving' followed by a practical. New members welcome.

Spooky Saturday***Bridgend

THERE will be plenty of treats and a few tricks at a Spooky Saturday event on October 29 in the Rhiw shopping centre and indoor market, Bridgend from 10am – 2pm.

The ghoulishly good fun will include a scary storytime at 11am, trick or treat activities at 12pm, as well as arts and crafts and face painting.

A pumpkin design competition is also being held in advance, with the six winning designs being carved and put on display on 'Spooky Saturday'.

All competition winners will also receive a goody bag, while the child who scoops first prize will have their design made on a cake by Jenkins the Bakers. Designs must be submitted by Sunday, October 23 and entry forms can be picked up in the Rhiw shopping centre.

Charity murder mystery night in support of Welsh Hearts

IT'S going to be a killer of an event!

Be our guest this Hallowe'en and enjoy a glass of wine and a three-course dinner, if you dare, while working through clues and riddles to solve a gruesome murder on board *The Mystery Of The Seas* cruise ship, as one of the guests is about to commit murder!

The evening takes place at Holm House Hotel, Marine Parade, Penarth, on October 31 at 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets are £39.95 and it is strictly formal wear on board ship!

To book call 02920 647735.

Animal Welfare AGM

THE AGM of Maesteg Animal Welfare Society will take place on Wednesday, November 2 at the Maesteg Council offices, Talbot Street, at 7pm. All are welcome.

Ladies' choir

YNYSAWDRE Village Hall presents Maesteg Ladies' Choir on Friday, November 18 at 7pm. Admission £5, includes refreshments. For tickets, call Mair on 01656 722115.

Could you help an elderly person?

AGE Connects is appealing for transport volunteers to choose when and how often they are available, and they are paid for the miles they do.

A spokeswoman said: "Going to hospital is never a choice any of us want to make, even when it makes us feel better. Especially when you have no one to take you, and you are older and anxious."

"A friendly volunteer who enjoys driving makes all the difference. Sometimes we ask volunteers to take

Contact volunteer coordinator Bridget Palmer on 01446 795549.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D953.

● £2,000: 121478.
 ● The rollover, which now stands at £5,500, was not won this week.
 ● £10: 510705, 194405, 315040, 783910, 398959, 605743, 324215, 786011, 353325, 544225, 732985, 976061, 458534, 742427, 721760, 933582, 933415, 1488, 1982457, 1984505.
 ● £5: 8 3 1 6 4 7 , 350157, 197501, 200684, 696250, 712032, 231157, 305336, 887597, 714671,

700071, 276019, 271815, 506376, 860002, 531484, 344151, 388750, 422526, 885320, 180816, 270146, 366711, 462567, 635394, 563951, 856527, 635655, 879125, 588979, 758966, 552352, 365746, 515182, 392999, 464465, 995687, 144998, 657662, 494738, 844339, 401782, 134070, 367714, 215242, 804639, 342076, 579411, 112550, 262199, 542666, 958996, 380495, 914434, 622310, 888824, 1506, 163, 1466805, 5583.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.



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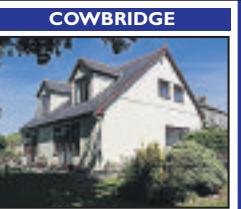
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PUBLIC NOTICE

The following Community & Town Councils have adopted an amended Code as regards the conduct which is expected of members and co-opted members based on the model code as prescribed under "Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016 - (No: 2016/84).

Copies of the code adopted by each council are available for inspection by members of the public at the times shown below:

Barry Town Council

Clerk: Mrs Emily Forbes - Tel: 01446 704920 7 Gladstone Rod, Barry, CF62 8NA - 9.00 am - 4.30 pm Monday - Friday

Cowbridge (Ancient Borough) With Llanblethian Town Council

Clerk: Mr David Morris Tel: 01446 773385 - Town Hall, Cowbridge, CF71 7AD - 9.00 am - 1.00 pm Mon - Fri

Dinas Powys Community Council

Clerk: Francis Butler - Tel: 02920513114 Council Office, Parish Hall, 2 Britway Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4AF; 9am - 1.00 pm - 2.00 - 4.30 pm Monday - Friday

Llanfair Community Council

Clerk: Mrs Jackie Griffin - Tel: 01446 773646 41 The Verlands, Cowbridge

Llancarfan Community Council

Clerk: Robert Carter - Tel: 01446 774833

Llanmaes Community Council

Clerk: Carole Alexander - Tel: 07751372537 (By appointment only)

Penarth Town Council

Clerk: Emma Boylan - Tel: 0292072100 West House, Stanwell Road, Penarth, CF64 2YG - 9.00 am - 4.30 pm Monday - Friday

Pendoylan Community Council

Clerk: Judith Roberts - Tel: 01446 760685 44 Heol St Cattwg, Pendoylan, Cowbridge, CF71 7UG - 9.30 am - 5.00 pm Monday - Friday

Penllyn Community Council

Clerk: Mr A D Williams - Tel: 07813318085 13 Wye Close, Barry, CF62 7TF - 9.00 am - 1.00 pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Welsh St Donats Community Council

Clerk: Victoria Pearce - Email:clerkwsd@gmail.com Tel: 01446 774833 (By appointment only)

Wenvoe Community Council

Clerk: Mr A D Williams - Tel: 02920591139 Community Centre, Old Port Road, Wenvoe, CF5 6AN October 2016

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Family Notices

THOMAS
Derek Gordon

Peacefully on October 12 at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend, Derek, aged 88 years, formerly of Llanblethian and Brecon. Dearly beloved husband of Jean, much loved father of Fiona and friend and father-in-law to Jeff. Precious bampi to George, Edward and Matthew and brother-in-law to John.

A gentleman dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Resting at Porthcawl Funeral Home until the funeral on Monday, October 24, which will take place at 1.45pm at Coychay Crematorium. Family flowers only, but donations if desired, in lieu of flowers to SSAFA and Leukaemia CARE c/o Richard Mustoe of Porthcawl Funeral Services, 75 New Road, Porthcawl, CF36 5DH. Tel: 01656 783699.

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**WILSON**
Melania Maria

Peacefully on October 12 at Llandough Hospital, Melania Maria, (Lania), aged 83 years, of Coronation Street, Barry. Beloved wife of the late Gordon.

Lania will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.

Resting at A.G.Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, where flowers may be sent or, if desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Holme Towers, Bridgeman Road, Penarth. Funeral service in the chapel on Monday, October 24 at 12 noon, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry.

CAUNT**Edward (Ted) Ernest**

Orchard House Residential Home.
Formerly of Purdey Close, Barry.

Peacefully at UHW on Tuesday, October 11. Much loved cousin, brother-in-law and uncle.

Ted will be sadly missed.

Resting at W. James & Sons Funeral Home, Fonmon until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Tuesday, October 25 at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if desired, to The Royal British Legion c/o W. James & Sons, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, CF72 9AG.

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HAWKINS**June Yvonne (née Pinch)**

Peacefully on October 6, after a long illness at College Fields Nursing Home, Barry, June formerly of Heol Isaf, Nelson and of Barry. Beloved wife of the late Dennis, devoted mother of Jonathan and Andrew, dear mother-in-law of Helen and Lynne. Much loved grandmother of Alex and Linda, Rebecca and Sam, Leah and Chris, loving great grandmother of Joseph and Thomas, step great grandmother to Amelia and Freya and special sister of Janice.

Sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Funeral Tuesday, October 25, service at St Johns Church, Nelson at 2pm, cremation at Glyntaff Crematorium at 3pm.

Family flowers only please but donations in lieu (to support research into Picks Disease) should be made payable to John Davies c/o John Davies and Sons Funeral Directors, Beechwood, Park Terrace, Trelewis, CF46 6BT. Tel: 01443 410224.

BOWLES
Graham Anthony

Peacefully after a long illness at the Waverley Care Home Penarth, Graham Anthony, aged 85 years. Previously of Wye Close, Cwm Talwg, Barry. Beloved husband of the late Joyce and dearly loved father of Tony, Stephen, Leslie and father-in-law of Mary and Alexis. Cherished grandfather of Sarah, Paul, Ceri, Jodi, Liam, Katie and great grandfather of Arthur.

Graham will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Tuesday, October 25, service in the chapel at 1pm, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry. Family flowers only, if desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Alzheimer's Society.

GEORGE**Robert William**

Peacefully on October 12 at Springbank Nursing Home, Barry, Bob, aged 93 years of Llanwit Major. Beloved husband of the late Rosemary and dearly loved father of Steven and the late Rosemarie, father-in-law of Hazel and much loved grandfather of Amanda.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, October 28, service 12 noon at St. Illtud's Church, followed by cremation at Coyerchurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 1.15pm.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Alzheimer's Disease Society c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

NEATHEY**Margaret (née Fitzgibbon)**

Peacefully at Marie Curie Hospice Penarth, after a short illness, on Saturday, 8th October 2016, Margaret, aged 82 years. Beloved wife of the late Bryn, much loved mum of Lynne and son-in-law Jonathan, loving man of Peter and David and devoted great-nan to Isabelle.

Funeral service to be held at St Peter's Church, Dinas Powys on Monday, 24th October, 2016 at 2pm, followed by cremation at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium Barry at 3pm.

Family flowers only but donations in lieu, if desired, to be sent directly to Marie Curie Hospice, Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR.

All enquires to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE. Tel: 029 20514627.

JAMES

Susan

Suddenly taken from us on Saturday, 8th October 2016, Sue James, aged 69 years. Beloved wife of the late Chris James, loving mother of Rachel and Mark, dearly loved mother-in-law of Martyn and Adela. Cherished grandmother of Rachel, Lizzie, James, Matthew, Sophie, Victoria, Megan, Ellie, Leah, Dafydd and Lexi, missed by all.

Sue will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Resting at Green Willow Funerals until her funeral service on Friday, 28th October at St Helens R.C. Church, Barry at 1pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Vale Crematorium, Barry at 2pm. Family flowers only, donations in memory of Sue to Ty Hafan or Scleroderma c/o Green Willow Funerals.

All enquires to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE. Tel: 029 2051 4627.

Acknowledgements

TERENCE JONES
(Terry)

Kath, Helen and Huw wish to thank all family, friends, neighbours, ex work colleagues and all those who attended Terry's funeral. Thank you for all the cards, flowers and messages of support and the donations to Terry's three chosen charities.

A special thank you to Canon Joe Boardman and Deacon Elfed for a very uplifting and comforting service.

Last but not least, to all the staff at Neale Kent and Sam Davies Wards at Barry Hospital for caring for dad in 2014.

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In Memory**SIM
James (Ginger)**

21 October 1977

Another day, another year, how we wish you were still here. You are thought about with pride son with each mention of your name. Death cannot change a single thing, the love will still remain. Remembering you is easy, we do it everyday, all our memories of you that will never go away.

'Happy Birthday'

Love and miss you

Mum, Dad & family xx

Thank You**THANK YOU**

To the three kind people and Stu who helped me when I fell and broke my shoulder on Eastgate on 4 October. I have no recollection of who you are, as I was knocked unconscious, but I am very grateful for all your help.

Helen

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SKILLSCYMRU 2016 INSPIRES GLAMORGAN'S NEXT GENERATION



Emry Hunnam (left).

Cowbridge Comprehensive School, Llantwit Major School, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd and Ysgol Bryn Castell.

The students were able to take part in interactive games, challenges, mock job interviews and were able to quiz exhibitors about career opportunities, learning routes and get careers advice for the future.

They were put through their paces by the British Army, had their welding skills tested using Lincoln Electric's virtual reality simulator and took part in drama

workshops with the Arts Council of Wales.

Emry Hunnam, (16), joined fellow students from Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd at the Go Construct stand where they were able to learn about the construction, and talk to professionals in the industry.

He said: "I've started studying for my A-Levels but I am unsure of what I want to do when I finish school, so Skills Cymru has been helpful to see the different options available. I think it's a great event especially at my age when I'm thinking out my next steps."

St Augustine's churchyard project gets the go ahead

THE Friends of St Augustine's Penarth have just heard that they have been awarded a start up grant of £8,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for its 'Heritage and Habitat' project.

The grant will enable volunteer members of the Habitat and Heritage group to progress this innovative and exciting project which will transform the large and rapidly deteriorating churchyard into a centre to which people can come to learn, look and relax.

Chair of the Habitat and Heritage Group, Andrew Davison, said: "This is a fantastic boost and the grant will enable us to get on with the preparatory survey work which is essential before we involve the local community more fully."

"We are very aware that this site is of great historical and environmental importance and we have a responsibility to record its history and make better use of the site as a place of environmental interest. It is a huge project, but this news has

enabled us to make a start with confidence".

St Augustine's churchyard occupies a remarkable site with far-reaching views towards Cardiff and the mountains beyond.

An ecological survey carried out last year revealed that the area is home to many plant species, birds, insects and some rare lichen. Among those of local interest buried in the churchyard are the famous Welsh composer, Joseph Parry and Brian family, well known for brewing.

Richard Bellamy, head of HLF in Wales, said: "The Habitat and Heritage Community Project is a fine example of HLF's Start-up programme that, thanks to National Lottery players, makes it possible to support local people to manage and sustain heritage for future generations, and to engage the community in its preservation."

Merched y Wawr y Bontfaen October report

DAETH DILYS Richards o from Bridgend was Benybotw atom ym mis Hydref i siarad am ei gwaith crefft.

Dilys is well known to us as the south east Wales representative in Merched y Wawr craft competitions at the Royal Welsh Show, where she has enjoyed considerable success over the years.

She gave us an interesting outline of the development of different fabrics from all over the world.

She went on to trace the history of the sampler, the cross-stitch and quilting.

She brought some of her work for us to see. Over a cuppa we were able to discuss with Dilys the techniques of the work and marvel at the finesse of the end product.

We thank Dilys for sharing her skills with us. MC

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Fine performance by the Bridgend Sports under-11 youngsters

Tonyrefail Under Elevens vs. Bridgend Sports Under 11s

IT WAS A SUNDAY morning trip to the top of the Ely Valley for Bridgend Sports Under Elevens to face familiar rivals Tonyrefail RFC.

Sports gained the upper hand in winning both home and away fixtures last year and they left Parklands with their winning form intact after putting in a fine team performance that was full of pace, power and skill.

It was Tonyrefail however who registered the first score of the game. They kicked off, Sports Callum Lewis fielded and set off on a run before passing to supporting player Harri Williams.

A try looked certain as the play was moved wide. Unfortunately, the ball went to ground. From the scrum, Tonyrefail were awarded a penalty due to the Sports' backs encroaching.

Tonyrefail moved it quickly across the field and back the other way putting their winger Tomas Owen away and he raced the length of the field to score.

Tonyrefail restarted the game with a drop-out which was fielded by Tom Chick.

He set off on a diagonal run before straightening to take play deep into the Tonyrefail half, forcing the home side to concede a penalty. From the restart Megan Lewis crashed through the defence for the Sports to level the scores.

This was just the stimulus the away side needed.

Forwards Tyron Davies, Meg Lewis and Ieuan Pilliner took play close to the try line before the ball was moved wide by Callum Lewis for Tom Chick to outpace the covering defence to score in the corner.

From this point forward Bridgend Sports were to dominate the game, they gained superiority at the ruck and soon extended their lead following a scrum some fifteen metres from the try line.

Scrum half Iestyn John passed to his namesake Cian John who put Harri Williams into a gap. A direct run from Dedi Worrall forced a penalty from a further Tonyrefail infringement, a quick tap put Harri Williams into space for him to score.

Joel Rogers scored the next as he danced through a few defenders before racing in for a try. He didn't

wait long before he showed his pace again; Jodie Keane took a quick penalty to put him into a gap, he quickly accelerated away to extend the lead to 5-25.

Three further tries were scored in the half with Harri Williams and Megan Lewis adding to their tries.

Callum Lewis also scored following further runs by Tyron Davies and Ieuan Pilliner.

Possession secured from a series of rucks allowed the Sports to move the ball through several pairs of hands to Callum Lewis out wide, who crossed the line to score.

Starting the second half 5-40 down, Tonyrefail battled but could not contain the away side who were brimming with confidence.

Good running from Dylan Morgan took play deep into the Tonyrefail half; the ever present Harri Williams was on hand to race in to register the first score of the second half.

Tonyrefail had some skilful runners in Sam Talbot and Tomas Owen but they could not secure possession to set them running as Bridgend Sports kicked wisely and applied pressure on the home side deep in their half.

This forced the home team into errors with solid tackling from Dylan Morgan, Harri Edmunds, Harri Williams, Iestyn John and Ieuan Pilliner.

Tyron Davies, Dedi Worrall and Meg Lewis were to dominate the rucks leaving Tonyrefail struggling to find any momentum.

Consequently, the away team's back play flourished as their backs and forwards combined in a fine team display.

Mason Balmer, Callum Lewis, Cian John all added tries before birthday boy Tyron Davies charged over for the fifth try.

Joel Rogers injected some pace to score two tries either side of a further try by Harri Williams.

Bridgend Sports match day squad: Cadan Hayes; Callum Lewis; Cian John; Dedi Worrall; Dylan Morgan; Harri Edmunds; Harri Williams; Iestyn John; Ieuan Pilliner; Jodie Keane; Joel Rogers; Mason Balmer; Megan Lewis; Thomas Chick; Tyron Davies.

SP

BARRY TOWN UNITED WELCOMES PORT TALBOT

THIS Saturday sees a special fixture in Barry Town United's 2016-17 campaign, as the club welcomes Port Talbot Town to Jenner Park for the first match between the sides in more than 12 years.

As well as sharing a glut of players across the seasons (not least current Barry forward Drew Fahyi), the teams' respective supporters have developed a bond like few others in Welsh football, with Saturday's league match (2.30pm kick-off) poised to be a celebration of this unique friendship.

Tracing their origins back to 1901, the former Port Talbot Athletic would adopt their modern 'Town' moniker in their centenary season, having earned promotion to the Welsh Premier League in 2000.

Barry and PTT had previously crossed paths in the Welsh League, but the presence of both on the national stage ensured their matches took on a new prominence after the turn of the century.

Following an initial stalemate, Barry would embark on a period of dominance over their western opponents; winning six times against Port Talbot in all competitions between April of 2001 and 2002.

Port Talbot's first win against Barry in the WPL, meanwhile, came in

September 2002, as a crowd of 651 saw the unbeaten visitors take the Friday night spoils at Jenner Park, winning by a single goal.

NEW OWNERSHIP

The 1-0 result was a special one in Port Talbot Town's modern day history, as the Steelmen climbed to the top of the Welsh Premier League for the first time, at the expense of the reigning champions.

By the next meeting in December 2003, the Welsh Premier League landscape had changed considerably; with Barry Town under new ownership, marooned at the bottom of the table and fielding an unrecognisable XI from that which ran out at Victoria Road in the previous campaign.

Nevertheless, the Barry spirit proved strong that night as David Hughes' players came from behind to lead in Port Talbot via Alun Hughes' double; before being pegged back to an eventual 2-2 draw.

The last meeting of the clubs to date came in May 2004, as efforts from Gavin Allen and Luke Sherbon (plus a fortuitous own goal) helped Barry to a 3-1 win on the final day of the season.

However, the result proved too little, too late for the Jenner Park outfit, with the seven-time Welsh Premier League champions having been condemned to relegation exactly a fortnight earlier.

Following Barry's exit from the national top flight, Port Talbot would stabilise as a Welsh Premier League outfit, while making their mark like never before in several other prominent competitions.

In 2007, over 2,500 spectators watched the Steelmen secure an FAW Premier Cup quarter-final victory over visiting Swansea City; the

promotion-chasing Swans fielding the likes of Lee Trundle and Adebayo Akintewo, who had shone at Jenner Park en route to Football League success.

Three years later, PTT made their way to their first ever Welsh Cup Final; coming from 2-0 down at Parc-y-Scarlets to draw level with Bangor City, before the Citizens snatched a stoppage time winner.

TELEVISION

2010 saw Port Talbot embark on their first European adventure, travelling to Finland in the UEFA Europa League qualifying rounds, while the Steelmen came within a whisker of more European football in 2013, losing out narrowly to Bala in a one-off Europa League play-off.

For Barry fans however, this televised clash was particularly notable for a large banner behind the goal, the Port Talbot regulars showing their public support for the Jenner Park club's off-field battles.

PTT and their then-chairman Andrew Edwards would continue to be staunch supporters of the Barry cause in the turbulent summer to follow, standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the long-suffering fans, as they took their fight for survival to the High Court.

With Jenner Park re-energised by the subsequent victory, Port Talbot's colourful band of followers would continue to play a part in the Barry comeback story; from attending games on fixtureless weekends to sponsoring youth players and competing in a Supporters' Cup match against their yellow and blue counterparts in 2015.

Now, with their own club in the midst of their own off-field challenges after demotion from the

Welsh Premier League, it is hoped the Barry public will recognise the role played by Port Talbot in the Barry Town revival and extend the hand of friendship again at Jenner Park this weekend.

Barry have commissioned a unique programme for Saturday's Welsh League Division One fixture, in two different colours: traditional green for the home support and Port Talbot blue for the visitors.

Meanwhile, the match has been designated as a special schools' ticket fixture, with youngsters, parents and guardians from across the Vale invited to join in the matchday fun.

Under the management of Paul Evans, Port Talbot Town head to Jenner Park off the back of a thrilling 5-4 win over Ton Pentre last weekend, a match the Steelmen won after being 3-1 down at the interval.

Conversely, Barry slumped to a 1-0 loss at championship contenders Goytre; the side's second successive away defeat, as Town continue to chase a first win on the road in 90 minutes all season.

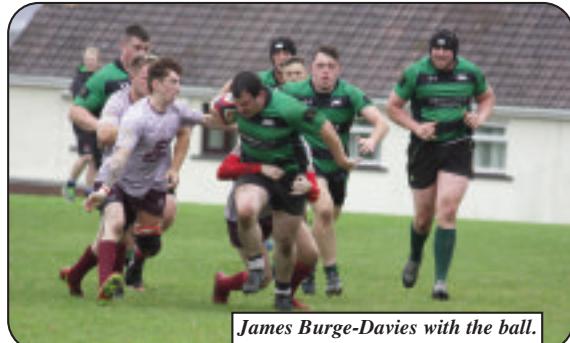
In a token of solace however, Barry's record at Jenner Park has been formidable this campaign; with Gavin Chesterfield's men winning each of their six outings to date, across all competitions.

Following Saturday's fixture (2.30pm kick-off), the club is back at home on Tuesday, October 25, when Haverfordwest County come to Barry for a high-stakes Nathaniel MG Cup quarter-final.

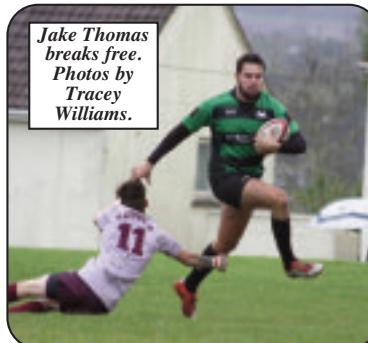
Kick-off in the Cup match is at 7.45pm, with entry for each of the upcoming fixtures at Jenner Park priced at £5 on the turnstiles, with concessions for senior citizens, students and children.

ASHLEY COX

BAGLAN'S TOUGH NUTS CONQUER PORTHCAWL



James Burge-Davies with the ball.



Jake Thomas breaks free.
Photos by Tracey Williams.

PORTHCAWL visited Ty Isaf Field in Baglan in search of their fourth league win of the season and full of hopes with a strong side.

Baglan however, had different ideas and when the rain started just as the teams were coming out, the home side's usual warm welcome became somewhat more difficult to overcome.

The early exchanges were more than a little scrappy, with Porthcawl's backs finding it difficult to establish a rhythm against Baglan's more direct approach, up the middle with harassment the key weapon.

Josh White had an opportunity after 15 minutes to put Porthcawl ahead but his penalty drifted wide and it was fully half an hour before any type of score looked likely in the pounding rain which was to play such a big part in the match.

Whilst Porthcawl's welter of possession produced little, Baglan's spoiling paid dividends as they bossed the breakdown with aplomb. From sustained pressure near the visitors' line, scrum half Ashley Watkins scooted in for the opening try, converted by burly fly half Mark Thomas and that brought in half time at 7-0.

Porthcawl missed the experience of the injured Ross Parsons at scrum half although young Jack Robbins did his best but was unprotected from the marauding home back row for much of the time.

Flanker and workhorse James Burge-Davies did his best to galvanise the Porthcawl effort in the opening period of the second half with some typically strong driving play and when full back Gareth Rees pounced on a loose ball on halfway, he kicked ahead and won the race for the touchdown try, converted by White and it was game on again.

Baglan are a tough nut to crack at home in the wet where keeping it close and driving up the middle is required and when Mark Thomas sensed a gaping hole in the usually reliable Porthcawl defence, he cantered in from fully 40 metres to score at the posts, a try which he also converted and things now looked bleak for the Seaweds.

White took advantage of home indiscipline with a fine penalty from wide out on 43 metres to bring Porthcawl within a winning score of Baglan but the home side cleverly kept the ball close, using their bulky pack to good effect.

Porthcawl came very close to snatching the match with a series of scrums close to the Baglan line but these failed to produce the opening required and the home side were elated at the final whistle, taking a big scalp. Final score was Baglan 14, Porthcawl 10.

Porthcawl still remain top of the division by some margin, however, and the visit of second placed Crynant to South Road on Saturday promises to provide a cracker of a match.

PAUL FIELDING

Rhys stars as Pencoed grab bonus point win

PENCOED continued their winning start to the season with this bonus point victory at the recreation ground.

**Pencoed 27
Cwmavon 10**

Cross split the Cwmavon midfield, before racing away from 50 metres to score wide out.

Clarke and Russell then combined well in their own 22 to clear to half-way.

Going into the final 10 minutes the home side then put the match beyond their visitors with a fifth try.

Kyle Barrett capitalised on good approach work to force his way over for a 27-10 lead.

Barrett was again in the picture with a try-saving tackle deep in his own 22, and with the Pencoed scrum now in the ascendancy there was no way back for the young Cwmavon side.

Pencoed flanker Rhys Watkins was chosen as their Man of the Match.

On Saturday, Pencoed travel to Nantymoel.

TR

Bridge club's donation to Bridgend Samaritans

THE President's Cup and charity evening at Bridgend Bridge Club was held on Friday, October 14.

Approximately 40 club members gathered to contest the President's Cup, donated last year by Bill Turner, club president. The winners were Marjorie Morris and Gareth Jenkins. Many congratulations to both for a superb win.

Particular mention must be made of Gareth, who only began bridge lessons a year ago. It is to Gareth's credit and also to the quality of the club's beginner lessons, delivered by Steve Burgoyne, that he has made such progress.

The other purpose of the evening was to raise funds for this year's charity, Samaritans. The club is proud to announce a final amount of £778 pounds to be donated to this very deserving charity.

This figure includes over £500 raised by John Henson for his tireless work in supplying refreshments at every club evening.

The results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are:

Wednesday, October 12 – Teams: First, Laura Woodruff and David



ABOVE: Centre – Bill Turner, president; left – Marjorie Morris; right – Gareth Jenkins.

Birt; Julian Pottage and Pat Cogbill. Third, John Simon Richards, Evans and Jeff Barnett. Second, Tony Disley and John Evans; Kevin Maddox and Mike Best. Third, David Newman and John Beard; Graham Jones and Irene Thomas.

Thursday, October 13 – First, Maggie Ashpole and Stuart Davies. Second, Dennis Smith and Wendy Bailey. Third, Martin Brawn and Gareth Jenkins. The winners on handicap were Martin Brawn and Gareth Jenkins.

Friday, October 14 – First, Marjorie Morris and Gareth Jenkins. Second, Dian Jones and

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. Play is scheduled to begin at 7pm, so it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, also at Nolton Church Hall there is a gentle bridge session. Master points are awarded, but it remains a relaxed occasion where players enjoy their bridge.

LLANTWIT Lions' under-12 football team have received a new kit from WA Brown & Son, Funeral Directors.

Funeral director Arthur Thompson said that the funeral home was very happy to help the local team for their upcoming season.

VALE POOL LEAGUE HAS ITS FIRST LADY CAPTAIN

VALE of Glamorgan pool league has its first lady captain, Leah May, a very accomplished pool player, who will take the helm at O'Briens pub in Barry town centre for their Thursday night league matches.

Finnegans at Barry Island has probably the biggest squad in the league and will be captained by the ever smiling Ian Doel. The future looks very bright for pool over on the Island with young players Joel Ball and Harry Aspro featuring strongly in the team.

The two big matches to look out for this Thursday are Borough Arms who are home to Cocopops and the Whitchel who are home to Finnegans all games start at 8pm.

This week the league will be affiliated to the Welsh Pool Association, the £165 fees being donated generously last week through a raffle at the King William IV Pub in Cadoxton.

Again Dave Miller and his patrons dug deep to

help out. Next week we are hoping to name our new county captain. P

Please note we are still looking for players of all capabilities to join, compete and have fun so contact Joe on 07870 498738 or email ValeofGlamorganpoolleague@gmail.com.

JB

HOWLEY NAMES WALES SQUAD

THE 36-man squad for the forthcoming Under Armour series was named by Wales head coach Rob Howley on October 18.

It includes two uncapped players – Sam Davies and Rory Thornton – both from the Ospreys. Squad and positions as follows:

Prop: Scott Andrews (Cardiff Blues); Tomas Francis (Exeter Chiefs); Rhys Gill (Cardiff Blues); Gethin Jenkins (Cardiff Blues); Samson Lee (Scarlets); Nicky Smith (Ospreys).

Hooker: Scott Baldwin (Ospreys); Kristian Dacey (Cardiff Blues); Ken Owens (Scarlets).

Second Row: Jake Ball (Scarlets); Luke Charteris (Bath Rugby); Bradley Davies (Ospreys); Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys); Rory Thornton (Ospreys).

Back Row: Dan Baker (Ospreys); Taulupe Faletau* (Bath Rugby);

James King (Ospreys); Dan Lydiate (Ospreys); Ross Moriarty (Gloucester); Justin Tipuric (Ospreys); Sam Warburton (Capt) (Cardiff Blues). **Scrum Half:** Gareth Davies (Scarlets); Rhys Webb (Ospreys); Lloyd Williams (Cardiff Blues).

Fly Half: Gareth Anscombe (Cardiff Blues); Dan Biggar (Ospreys); Sam Davies (Ospreys).

Centre: Jonathan Davies (Scarlets); Tyler Morgan (Newport Gwent Dragons); Jamie Roberts* (Harlequins); Scott Williams (Scarlets).

Wing/Full Back: Hallam Amos (Newport Gwent Dragons); Alex Cuthbert (Cardiff Blues); Leigh Halfpenny (Toulon); George North* (Northampton Saints); Liam Williams (Scarlets).

*Senior Player Selection

Player wildcard selection.

Lions are looking smart!



Coaches Ashley Gifford and Tom Gingell, junior coaches Rhys Roberts and Jake Fairchild, funeral director Arthur Thompson and the players of Llantwit Lions' under-12 team.

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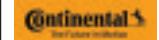
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miles, sought after coupe at**£7,995**

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Automatic In met grey, 58,000 miles, with sat-nav,
alloys etc**£7,995**

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Badminton club wins an award



A junior badminton club based in Penarth has been awarded for increasing the opportunity for disabled people to take part in sport.

Penarth and Vale Junior Badminton Club has achieved the Insport Ribbon award, which is a Disability Sport Wales initiative that aims to demonstrate how inclusive community sports clubs are.

The club has shown that it has a good level of understanding of how to include disabled people in their sessions, and have been awarded for this understanding.

This symbolises a great achievement for the club, as it was established in November 2015, and, in the past year, the club has seen its membership rise from 4 to 40.

This 40 now includes a diverse mix of members, with many starting as young as primary school age.

The club's aim is to provide quality badminton sessions delivered by experienced coaches who can improve the skill level of every participant, no matter what their starting ability.

The club was set up in partnership with Angela Stevens, Badminton Wales Development Officer, with a local Sport Wales Community Chest grant being used to help with the initial start-up costs.

Simon Jones, Disability Sport Wales Development Officer, said: "I think it's brilliant that the club is providing excellent inclusive opportunities, and want to include everyone."

"I believe this is one of the major reasons why the membership has grown so much over the past year."

"Everyone involved with the club should be praised for what they have achieved in such a short space of time."

"Their philosophy from the start has been to include everyone, and this has had such a positive effect on new members."

Everyone is welcome to attend the club, who train every Friday night between 7pm-8pm at Penarth Leisure Centre.

The junior section is open to all children aged seven-plus, with the first session being free.

For further information, please contact Ley Woolley on 07515761552 or email at leywoolley@hotmail.com

Oska's winner

OSKA'S EVA, a six-year-old grey mare trained by Tim Vaughan at Aberthin, was a 12 lengths winner of the Equestrian Surfaces Handicap Hurdle (Division 1) at Uttoxeter last Thursday.

Partnered by 3lb claiming jockey Alan Johns, *Oska's Eva*, a 7-1 chance, was chalking-up her first win.

BRIAN LEE

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BARRY CHESS CLUB WEEKLY ROUNDUP

THIS was a somewhat quieter week for the Barry Chess Club with only two matches played. The results are beginning to show a level of consistency now, particularly with the results from the Bosons and the Quarks.

The Bosons recorded their second consecutive victory having the unusual circumstance of playing four games in four weeks.

We defeated the Penarth Pirates with wins from Matthew Davies, Dave Parsons and Ken Hannah. Steve Cunliffe chipped in with his third draw from four matches to maintain his personal unbeaten start to the season.

This 3.5 - 1.5 win moves the Bosons out of the relegation spots up to the lofty heights of 5th place.

There remain a couple of fixtures to be completed in this round of matches but it seems unlikely we will drop back into the relegation spots next week.

In what seems like a shock to me the Caerphilly Kings destroyed the pennant champions, the Cardiff Castles, and now hold a 4 point advantage at this early part of the season. The Castles could only muster a half a point from this match.

In division 3 the Quarks went down by 3.5 - 1.5 against a strong Bridgend C team. The Quarks managed to earn draws against difficult opponents on the top 3 boards but lost on boards 4 and 5.

by PHIL JONES

So after four matches the consistent Quarks have lost four matches. Three of them by the same score of 3.5 - 1.5, and gaining an extra half point in the other match. The Quarks sit in 8th place and sooner rather than later will need to turn some of these close matches into wins.

In the Alec Wood Trophy we have six representatives in the 'top 40'.

Pride of place goes to Stephen Bonutto in third place with a ratings increase of 79 points from his 23 matches.

Even better is David Jones who sits in 6th place having gained 62 points but from only three matches. Also represented is Nigel Ralphs, John Stephenson, Sam Jukes and Steve Cunliffe.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7:30 pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night, but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>

Terry Davies' autobiography is a 'must' for all rugby fans

A must for all rugby fans is Terry Davies - Wales' First Superstar Fullback (published by yLolfa at £9.99).

Written with the aid of Swansea Valley-based journalist Geraint Thomas, this long-awaited autobiography reveals the truth about Terry's life in rugby during the 1950s as well as the loss of his talented brother Len to leukaemia at a young age.

This is story of a typical working-class upbringing and coming of age before finding glory on the rugby pitch as much a social commentary as a fascinating insight into the heydays of the amateur game.

The post-war period saw top rugby players in Wales achieve the kind of fame once associated with Hollywood movie stars and few captured the headlines more often than Terry Davies.

The boy from Bynea, who combined the good looks of a young Robert Redford with silky skills and tough as teak tackling, went on to wow crowds across the rugby-playing world through his displays for Wales and the British and Irish Lions.

This book tells of the remarkable life story of the Lions star, encompassing his childhood in Llanelli, learning rugby in Stradey School, making his debut as a schoolboy for Swansea, entering the Royal Marines and winning his first cap before becoming a household name.

From the highs of touring New Zealand and beating the All Blacks in their own backyard to the lows of a career-threatening shoulder injury, his

rugby journey, which began as a nervous 17 year old one rainy day in Ebbw Vale and ended with universal acclaim, is real 'Roy of the Rovers' stuff.

I particularly enjoyed the story of the time Wales played England, when after the match a Welsh supporter clambered over the railings and sawed down a piece of the cross bar as a souvenir.

Although he is not mentioned, the culprit was my old point-to-point friend, the late Tenby farmer and champion point-to-point rider Fred Mathias.

Fred was a real character and his grandson John Mathias is one of the leading amateur riders in the country.

Terry also remains one of the few living Welshmen to have won a test match in New Zealand.

Co-writer Geraint Thomas said: "Terry is a natural storyteller. His book is packed with humour. He typifies the Welsh humour once so prevalent amongst the working class."

"His tale is both a social commentary and cultural account of Welsh life pre and post war, as well as a priceless account of a bygone age of rugby union."

In his introduction to the book, Sir Gareth Edwards writes: "As a young inspiring player he left a huge impression on me due to the way he stood out from the rest."

A cracking book and certainly value for money.

BRIAN LEE

Barrivale Bridge Club results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for October 11:

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address. DR

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Mixed emotions at Aberfan game



Cefn Cribwr's visit to Aberfan was tinged with sadness as players from both sides remembered the tragedy of 50 years ago. A minute's silence was held before the match. (See also the image on our front page).

Picture by Rigby Photography Wales.

CEFN Cribwr travelled to league leaders Aberfan and were looking to continue their good run.

It was a game of mixed emotions from both clubs as Cefn paid tribute to the victims of the Aberfan disaster by presenting the home team's captain a wreath and players participated in a minute's silence before the match.

Cefn started the game very much on top and adopted a high press tactic which gave the league leaders very little time on the ball; the tactic proved worth while early as Cefn took the lead through a Gwyn Thomas cross which found its way to Gordon Watt who neatly finished at the bear post.

Cefn's back four were

commanded by the dominating presence of Jon Tiffin who, aided by James Carrington shored everything up.

Cefn scored on the cusp of half-time with a very well worked goal started in midfield with Jason Cave finding prolific winger Dan Jenkins in space where he skipped passed two players and his cross was met by Gwyn Thomas.

All credit to Aberfan who came out of the break flying, and trying to create chances. But Cribwr's defence stood up to the test and started a counter attack with a ball played wide to Jenkins who left his man, drove up the line, before cutting inside and slotting the ball in at the near post.

Cefn made sure they had all the points with a goal to cap a fine

performance from Gordon Watt.

Aberfan grabbed a consolation goal to make the final score 4-1.

The real winner on the day was football.

After the game both clubs left to visit the garden of remembrance to pay their respects to all those who tragically lost their lives in the Aberfan disaster.

Stand in captain Tom Harris laid a wreath and the whole squad spared a moment to remember.

A Cefn Cribwr spokesman said: "We wanted to pay our respects and would like to thank Aberfan for allowing us to do that."

GB

Marie Ratcliffe trophy.

The trophy was

donated many years ago

by the late Marie

Ratcliffe, who was not

only a prominent local

bridge player, but

through her bridge

classes, taught many of

our existing members the

art of the game.

The table money for

the evening was

supplemented by a raffle,

enabling the club to raise

£100, split between the

RNLI, who do invaluable

work in our seaside

resort, and the local

Sandville Trust.

Results: Saturday

September, 24 - First -

Janet Richards & Keith

Davison; Second - Dil

Evans & Roger Draper.

Thursday September, 29 -

Annual pairs competition held at local bridge club benefits local charities

THE annual charity pairs competition was held this month at Porthcawl Bridge Club, with Rob Charlesworth and John Beard winning the Marie Ratcliffe trophy.

The trophy was donated many years ago by the late Marie Ratcliffe, who was not only a prominent local bridge player, but through her bridge classes, taught many of our existing members the art of the game.

The table money for the evening was supplemented by a raffle, enabling the club to raise £100, split between the RNLI, who do invaluable work in our seaside resort, and the local Sandville Trust.

Results: Saturday September, 24 - First - Janet Richards & Keith Davison; Second - Dil Evans & Roger Draper. Thursday September, 29 -

TH

First - Tony Haworth &

Keith Davison; Second -

Pat Haworth & Gary

Williams. Saturday,

October 1 - First - Trish

Saunders & Pat

Haworth; Second - Dil

Evans & Roger Draper.

Thursday, October 6,

Marie Ratcliffe charity

pairs - First - Rob

Charlesworth & John

Beard; Second - Mair

Davison & Megan

Taylor. Saturday,

October 8 - First - Peter

& Sandie Jenkins;

Second - John Beard &

Tony Haworth. Thursday,

October 14 - First - Rob

Charlesworth & John

Beard; Second - Tony

Haworth & Keith

Davison.

The club meets twice a week - Saturday and

Thursday at the A wel-

Y Mor centre, 7pm -

10.15pm, visitors

welcome at any time. To

contact the club, call our

secretary, Trish, on

01656 785794.

TH

As nobody knew the

ability level of our team,

we were thrown into the

deep end into the

Championship League

Thank you to the local

shoppers filling up the

day box three times, which is

the most anyone has ever

had, our club received a

donation of £500 to go

towards their transport

and equipment.

We would like to

thank the local people for

their support.

Over the past couple of

months KLM Sports

ran a 'like and share'

competition

on Facebook.

Out of thousands of

people who applied, we

were drawn out as the

lucky winners. Thanks

to KLM Sports we

received 20 training

jackets and 20 club

t-shirts, which was a

lovely gift for our small,

family club.

KH

Good showing from Bridgend DFC



AT the end of September, Bridgend Disabled FC sent a team to Marlow to play in the Bobi League, which is a pan disabled league that has been running for the past seven years and includes teams from Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire which also includes teams from out of the area like ourselves.

The club meets twice a week - Saturday and Thursday at the A wel-Y Mor centre, 7pm - 10.15pm, visitors welcome at any time. To contact the club, call our secretary, Trish, on 01656 785794.

TH

was the winger's seventh try of the season and the

third game in succession for a try double. A penalty by Howells stretched the lead to 26-13.

The game changed on the hour mark when Fera's scrum half Scott Gibson who had played on the edge all game felt aggrieved at a tackle from Sean Williams. A tussle saw Williams with a yellow and Gibson with a red.

The Athletic brought on Scott Griffith and

Jonathon Howard as the heavens opened and the

Athletic went in search of the bonus point try. This

came when Fera had a driving maul going inside

the Athletic 22. Amazingly Athletic centre Tom

Morgan ripped away the ball and went straight

through the maul. He handed onto centre Michael

Hathaway who kicked into the Fera 22. The home

full back was tackled and the ball was moved to

number 8 Stuart Edbrook who crossed for the final

bonus point try of the game and his third of the

season, Edbrook with an astonishing display of

defensive tackling and aggressive ball-carrying was

awarded man of the match.

On October 22, the Athletic entertain Seven

Sisters at Newbridge Fields before making the long

trek north on the 29th to play Mold in the second

round of the National Plate Cup.

ADRIAN BURT

Bridgend conceded a goal less than 10 seconds after kick off after a shot beat Josh Russell in the Town goal from around 30 yards out.

Bridgend reacted quickly, Iestyn Lewis equalised for the away side soon after he

opener, another long-range effort.

Minutes later, Lewis was involved again, after a clash with a Cowbridge man. The ref issued the red card for both sides' players.

Liam Joseph struck his first of three just before the break but it was cancelled out after a Cowbridge free kick ended up in the Town net which saw both sides go in level.

Bridgend took their chances well seeing Aryan Jandaghi and Tinotenda Chimini get on the score-sheet.

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